Dan Ayala Aaron Crutison Gerald Huber Dana Dean Michele Harris. ED

COMMISSION MEETING January 12, 2016 – 5:30-7:30pm 601 Texas Street, Conference Room B, Fairfield, CA 94533

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 January 12, 2016 Commission Meeting Agenda
- B. Approve the December 1, 2015 Commission Meeting Minutes
- III. Introduction of 2016 Officers; Chair Appoints Committee Chairs (10 min)

Information

IV. FY2016-2018 Funding Cycle (10 min)

Information

- A. Receive an update on the implementation of the FY2016-2018 Funding Cycle Megan Richards, First 5 Solano
- V. Communications Update (30 min)

Information/ Discussion

- A. Receive a presentation on the 2016 Community Calendar Cherelyn Hunt, First 5 Solano
- VI. IMPACT Program Presentation (30 min)

Information/ Discussion

- A. Receive a presentation on IMPACT activities and the Solano Early Learning System Megan Richards, First 5 Solano; Lisette Estrella-Henderson and Lisa Eckhoff, Solano County Office of Education
- VII. Committee Reports (5 min)

Information

- A. Program and Community Engagement Committee (Commissioner Niedziela) No Meeting
- B. Systems and Policy Committee (Commissioner Barbosa) No Meeting
- VIII. Executive Director's Report (5 min)

Information

Michele Harris, Executive Director

IX. Commissioner Remarks (5 min)

Information

Marisela Barbosa, Chair Liz Niedziela, Vice Chair Jay Speck Elise Crane Erin Hannigan



CHILDREN ARE OUR BOTTOM LINE

Dan Ayala Aaron Crutison Gerald Huber Dana Dean Michele Harris. ED

X. Future Agenda Items, Meeting Time/Date/Location (5 min)

Information

The next Commission meeting will be held on March 1, 2016 at 5:30 PM at 601 Texas Street, Conference Room B, Fairfield. Future agenda items include: Annual Budget, Committee Reports.

ADJOURN

Vision: All Solano County children are loved, healthy, confident, eager to learn, and 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

December 1, 2015, 5:00 PM – 7:30 PM 601 Texas Street, Suite 210, Fairfield, CA

Minutes

Commissioners present: Aaron Crutison (Chair), Marisela Barbosa (Vice Chair), Jay Speck, Dan Ayala, Elise Crane (departed 6:15pm), Liz Niedziela, Jerry Huber, and Dana Dean (arrived 5:21pm)

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

Members of the public present: Susan Brutschy and Lisa Niclai (Applied Survey Research), Debbi Davis (Children's Nurturing Project), Zoila Perez-Sanchez (FSUSD), Maria Vicondoa (EMQFF), Isabel Mantano and Gloria Diaz (Vacaville FRC), Tamera Owens (Solano Coalition for Better Health), Blanche Hilman (Benicia FRC).

Chair Crutison called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

I. Public Comment

Ms. Richards announced Ms. Shipman's retirement and thanked her for her dedication to the children of Solano County.

II. Consent Calendar

- A. Approve the December 1, 2015 Commission Meeting Agenda
- B. Approve the October 6, 2015 Commission Meeting Minutes
- C. Approve the October 24, 2015 Commission Retreat Minutes

Motion: Approve the Commission Meeting Agenda for December 1, 2015, approve minutes of the October 6, 2015 Commission Meeting, and approve minutes of the October 24, 2015 Commission Retreat minutes.

Moved by Commissioner Huber; Seconded by Commissioner Ayala Approved 7-0-0

Yea: Commissioners Crutison, Barbosa, Speck, Crane, Niedziela, Ayala, and

Huber

Nay: None Abstain: None

III. Public Hearing: Adoption of First 5 Solano 2016 Strategic Plan Update

Ms. Niclai presented the 2016 Strategic Plan Update and explained that it would be used as the foundational document upon which the Commission would rely to set a course for upcoming years. Ms. Niclai pointed out Appendix B which was the method in

which the Commission would measure the efficiency and effectiveness of funded programs. Commissioners Speck and Crutison commented that Applied Survey Research (ASR) accurately captured the Commission's suggestions and concerns when creating this report.

Commissioner Dean suggested changing the wording in Result 7 to read: *Parents and primary caregivers are educated on, prepared <u>for, and engaged in helping their children enter school ready to learn.* Commissioner Dean asked that her title be listed as: *Solano County Board of Education, Trustee, Area III.*</u>

Commissioner Crane was concerned about the phrase "high quality" used as a potential indicator in the table on page 19 of the plan. There is currently no standard or established definition for the phrase and therefore may not be used accurately when measuring performance toward the goal. Commissioner Crane suggested rewording the performance measure and the Commission agreed to modify the existing result area to read: Children have access to high quality, affordable learning experiences in their community. The Commission also agreed to modify and add to the existing result areas to read: a) Number of children enrolled in licensed child care; b) Number of children enrolled in quality child care; c) Number/percentage of preschool classrooms demonstrating increased quality.

Motion: Consider adoption of the 2016 Strategic Plan Update as amended

Moved by Commissioner Barbosa; Seconded by Commissioner Ayala Approved 8-0-0

Yea: Commissioners Crutison, Barbosa, Speck, Crane, Niedziela, Ayala,

Huber, and Dean

Nay: None Abstain: None

IV. 2016 Long-Term Financial Plan Update

Ms. Richards presented the 2016 Long-Term Financial Plan (LTFP) Update and pointed out changes from the last LTFP. The plan provides long-term projections for funding priorities, and helps the Commission better understand the long-term financial impact of its investments. Ms. Richards clarified that the plan does not obligate specific funding, but rather is used as a framework to make those decisions. It also helps the Commission to soften the landing from the upcoming "fiscal cliff."

Ms. Richards pointed out that the changes in fiscal assumptions include: a 3% annual decrease of Prop 10 revenue, the rate of interest earnings has increased to 0.4%, and matching funds are only considered if they are secured. The financial model is a working document that would be updated annually based on actual revenues and expenditures, and Commission direction for the future.

Motion: Consider approval of the 2016 Long-Term Financial Plan Update

Moved by Commissioner Barbosa; Seconded by Commissioner Ayala

Approved 8-0-0

Yea: Commissioners Crutison, Barbosa, Speck, Crane, Niedziela, Ayala, Huber,

and Dean

Nay: None Abstain: None

V. 2016-2018 Program Investment Plan

Ms. Harris presented the 2016-2018 Program Investment Plan which communicates how funds will be allocated amongst the Commission's goals set in the Strategic Plan. The plan highlights the gap between Prop 10 revenues and overall expenditures, and forecasts a fund balance of \$6.1 million at the end of the two years. Ms. Harris explained that the investments are spread more evenly among the goal areas than in past funding cycles due in large part to the reduction in the Health and Well-Being Priority, as Solano County Health and Social Service has agreed to fund the BabyFirst Solano Program.

Motion: Consider approval of the 2016-2018 Program Investment Plan

Moved by Commissioner Huber; Seconded by Commissioner Barbosa Approved 8-0-0

Yea: Commissioners Crutison, Barbosa, Speck, Crane, Niedziela, Ayala, Huber,

and Dean

Nay: None Abstain: None

VI. Committee Reports

A. Program and Community Engagement

No items.

B. Systems and Policy Committee

Discussed in items III., IV., and V.

VII. Election of the 2016 First 5 Solano Commission Officers

Commissioners Ayala announced the nomination and acceptance of Commissioner Barbosa as the 2016 Chair and Commissioner Niedziela as 2016 Vice Chair.

Moved by Commissioner Dean; Seconded by Commissioner Ayala Approved 7-0-0

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

VII. Executive Director's Report

Ms. Harris had no additions to the written report.

VIII. Commissioner Remarks

The Commissioners wished everyone a happy and safe holiday season.

IX. Future Agenda Items

The next Commission meeting will be held on January 12, 2016 at 5:30 PM at 601 Texas Street, Conference Room B, Fairfield. Future agenda items include: Committee Reports.

Adjourn

Commissioner Crutison adjourned the meeting at 6:25pm.

Christiana Lewis, Office Assistant III Approved:



DATE: January 6, 2016

TO: First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission

FROM: Megan Richards, Deputy Director

SUBJ: FY2016-18 Funding Cycle

Agenda Item IV: Receive an Update on the Implementation of the FY2016-2018 Funding Cycle

At the December 1, 2015 Commission Meeting, the Commission approved its 2016-2018 Program Investment Plan which allocated funds by Goal Area for FY2016/17 and FY2017/18. A summary of these allocations is below.

Goal	Initiative	Strategies	2016/17	2017/18	Total
All	Help Me Grow	Access and linkage to services	120,000	120,000	240,000
Goal 1	Prenatal	Insurance enrollment for newborns	35,000	35,000	70,000
Goal 2	Health Insurance	Insurance outreach & enrollment	121,000	121,000	242,000
Goal 2	Mental Health	Developmental screenings & treatment	610,000	610,000	1,220,000
Goal 3	Child Care	IMPACT; Head Start facility; Head Start child care wrap around	476,000	476,000	952,000
Goal 4	School Readiness	Pre-kindergarten academies	200,000	200,000	400,000
Goal 5 & 6	Family Support	Neighborhood-based Family Resource Center I&R and case management	860,000	860,000	1,720,000
		2,422,000	2,422,000	4,844,000	

In an effort to secure services by July 2016 for a seamless transition, staff will be implementing a multi-pronged approach.

Staff anticipate releasing two funding solicitations: one for School Readiness activities and one for Family Support services. The solicitation for School Readiness follow a similar Request for Applications (RFA) for Pre-Kindergarten Academies as in previous years. The main difference is the solicitation will be for the two-year funding cycle, rather than annually. This change will achieve multiple goals: decreased administrative work for grantees in applying and contracting; increased time for outreach in year 2; and provide a continuity of services in the community.

Family Support services will be solicited through a Request for Qualification (RFQ) for the twoyear funding cycle. In addition to the funding from First 5 Solano, staff is exploring the opportunity to augment the RFQ with the General Fund contribution for similar services for the 6-18 population to ensure continuity of services for families with children of multiple ages and/or children who age out of First 5 Solano services, but are still in need of Family Support services. This solicitation will focus on the activities of case management, basic needs support, financial counseling, and parent support & education for high-risk families.

Several allocations will continue through contracts that are already in place through FY2016/17, including Help Me Grow services and the Mental Health Services provided through the Partnership for Early Access for Kids (PEAK) collaborative. Other funding that will be continued with the current providers due to the specialized nature of the work includes: Prenatal; Health Insurance; and Child Care services.

In addition to the direct services, all contracts will include activities related to Systems Change and sustainability as discussed at the October Commission Retreat. First 5 Solano staff are currently working with grantees and other community partners to identify the activities that would be most beneficial and lead to the greatest system change. These activities will be brought forth to the Commission through the Systems and Policy Committee as a Systems Change Plan is developed.

Next Steps/Timeline: Staff will follow the following timeline of activities:

January 2016 Release RFA/RFQ

March 2016 Commission approves FY2016/17 Budget
 April 2016 Commission approves awards of funding

April-May 2016 Staff negotiates contracts

June 2016 Board of Supervisors approve contracts

July 1, 2016 Service begin



DATE: January 5, 2016

TO: First 5 Solano Commission

FROM: Cherelyn Ellington Hunt, Program Manager

SUBJ: Communications Update

Agenda Item V: Receive a presentation on the 2016 Community Calendar

The seventh annual First 5 Solano Community Calendar is now being distributed throughout Solano County. The calendar is organized around monthly themes that relate to developmental milestones, monthly observances, and other important information about young children. The information in the calendar helps parents and caregivers create fun activities for their children and provides information about their child's health and development, as well as information about connection to local community resources. Monthly themes will be the basis for First 5 Solano's monthly communication messages.

The calendar is free and is available in English and Spanish. A calendar, including information on how to order additional calendars for distribution has been sent to libraries, childcare providers, businesses, elected officials, health care providers, the faith based community and community partners. Staff has also collaborated with the Solano County Office of Education (SCOE) and Solano Family and Children's Services (SFCS) to distribute calendars to all kindergarten and TK students and all Solano childcare and preschool providers.

Ordering is simple; those requesting a calendar(s) can go to www.first5solano.org and click on the "I want to order a calendar" link on the front page. Once the ordering information is completed, calendars will be delivered directly to the requestor for use or distribution within the community.

Included in this year's calendar are two additional tools: first, there is a tear out page that parents and caregivers can use to help their child become familiar with letters, numbers, shapes and colors. This tool can be used to help a child learn basic information in a way that feels like they are simply playing with their parent! Second, the calendar includes an emergency preparedness checklist to help families create an emergency kit and think about resources they may need or want to include with a focus on items to help keep children safe and calm.

Together with our partners, First 5 Solano is able to connect more than one in eight of the county's youngest children and their families with needed services. The calendar provides a fun and effective tool to help community partners reach out to and engage with parents and other family members outreach and engagement with parents and their children.

Attachment A: 2016 First 5 Solano Community Calendar Presentation

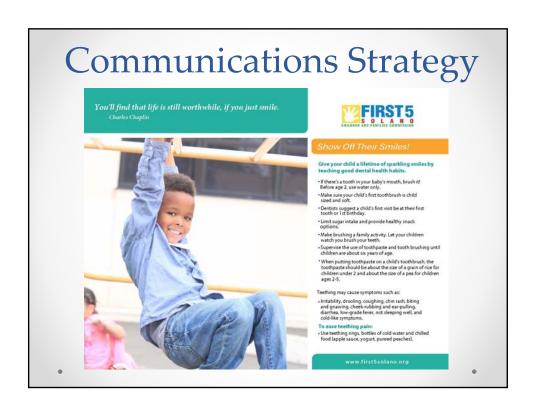






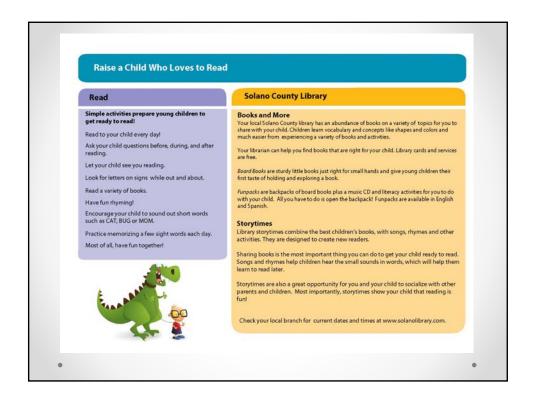


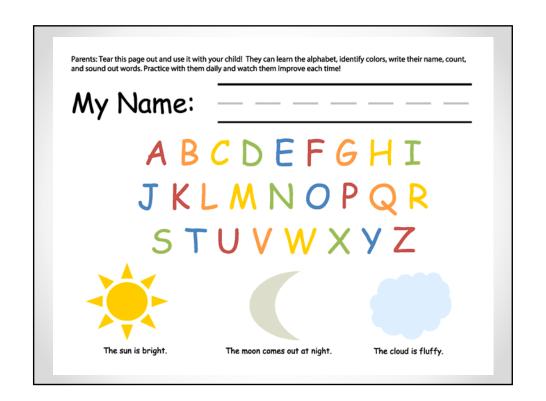


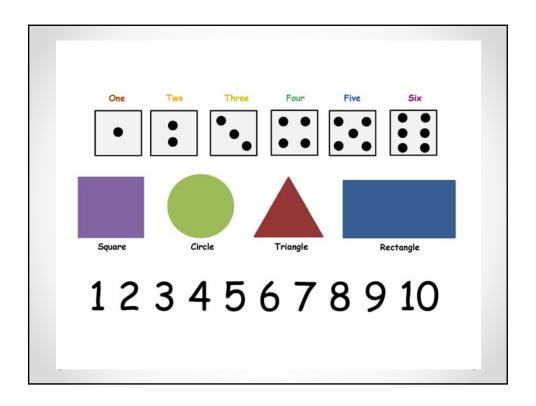


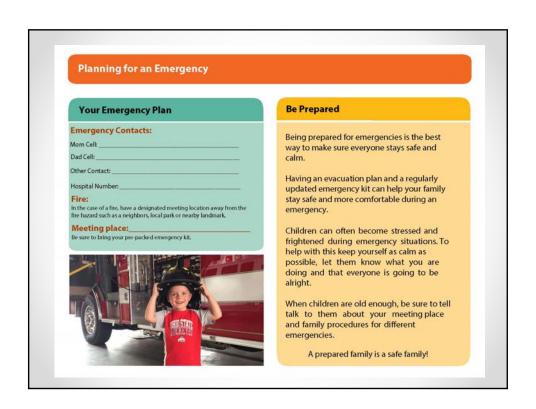


















DATE: January 4, 2016

TO: First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission

FROM: Megan Richards, Deputy Director

SUBJ: IMPACT Program Presentation

Agenda Item VI: Receive a presentation on IMPACT activities and the Solano Early Learning System

In July 2015, First 5 CA released a Request for Applications for First 5 Improve and Maximize Programs so All Children Thrive (IMPACT) initiative supporting the local quality improvement system to coordinate, assess and improve early learning settings. On July 16, the First 5 Solano Commission approved First 5 Solano's participation in the initiative and a local investment of \$200,000 over five years to draw down nearly \$1.1 million of First 5 CA funds toward this effort.

The presentation today aims to update the Commission on the local and statewide efforts of IMPACT and the Solano Early Learning Community. Highlights include:

- Phase I and II IMPACT applications submitted
- Development of Solano Quality Early Learning System partner map
- Development of Solano QRIS Consortium Vision and Mission
- · Improvement of system alignment across all quality efforts
- Early local implementation efforts—contracting with Solano County Office of Education; development of local quality elements
- Regional and statewide efforts—training; support from Hubs

Attachment A: IMPACT & the Solano Early Learning System Presentation



BACKGROUND



• July 2015:

- First 5 CA released Request for Applications for Improve and Maximize Programs so All Children Thrive (IMPACT) allocating over \$1 million to Solano County over 5 years (FY2015/16-FY2019/20)
- First 5 Solano Commission approved participation and allocation of \$200,000 for match funding

BACKGROUND

- August 2015:
 - Submitted Phase I Application which made nearly \$500,000 available to First 5 Solano
- December 2015:
 - Submitted Phase II Application for remainder of funding
- January 2016:
 - Anticipated response from First 5 CA for Phase II Application



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WHAT IS QUALITY IN EARLY LEARNING?

Elements in the Rating Matrix (7)	Elements in the CQI Pathways (8)				
CORE I: Child Development and School Readiness					
Child Observational Assessments Developmental and Health Screenings	School Readiness Social-Emotional Development Health, Nutrition, and Physical Activity				
CORE II: Teachers and Teaching					
Qualifications for Lead Teacher/FCC Home Owner Education and Professional Development Classroom Assessment Scoring System® (CLASS®)	4. Effective Teacher-Child Interactions 5. Professional Development				
CORE III: Program and Environment					
Ratios and Group Size (Centers only) Environment Rating Scales (ERS) Director Qualifications (Centers only)	Environment Program Administration Family Engagement				



SYSTEM ALIGNMENT

- One Consortium for system-wide decisions
- IMPACT aligns with:
 - QRIS Block Grant
 - Early Head Start Partnerships
 - Other efforts (e.g. Local Childcare Planning Council, Solano Kids Thrive Collective Impact, etc.)

QRIS CONSORTIUM VISION

 Every child in Solano County will be prepared and inspired to be a life-long learner.

QRIS CONSORTIUM MISSION

 The Solano QRIS Consortium will support the early care and learning community to build a quality system that will improve outcomes for all children and their families.



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IMPLEMENTATION

- Convene Consortium to direct system level decisions
- Utilize parallel system of engagement and implementation as QRIS Block Grant
- Recruit 56 early care and education sites, including:
 - State Preschools
 - Centers
 - Family Child Care Homes
 - Alternative Sites



IMPLEMENTATION

 Sites complete self assessment and develop a Quality Improvement Plan with a goal for each required element



- Sites can be Step 1-3
 - Step 1: Effective Teacher-Child Interactions & Family Engagement
 - <u>Step 2</u>: Step 1 plus Environment, and Social Emotional Development
 - Step 3: Step 2 plus 7 element published rating

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IMPLEMENTATION

- Why should early care and learning providers participate?
 - \$500 participation stipend
 - Individualized coaching
 - Professional development
 - Up to \$1,000 for site improvements to meet goals in their plan
 - Additional stipend for Step 3 sites rated at Tier 4-5
 - Branding as a site involved in quality efforts

REGIONAL/STATEWIDE EFFORTS

- First 5 CA:
 - Technical Assistance to counties
 - Training to develop local professional expertise
 - Evaluation-TBD
- Hubs:
 - Solano in a Hub region with: Sonoma, Napa, Lake, Mendocino, Humboldt, and Del Norte
 - Hubs will provide system level supports, such as:
 - Training to develop local professional expertise
 - Technical Assistance
 - Data System
 - County to County support

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NEXT STEPS

- Develop outreach and informational materials:
 - Providers
 - Parents
 - Community
 - Policy
- Recruit Sites:
 - 15 sites by end of FY2015/16
- Launch Event
 - Spring 2016





SYSTEMS AND POLICY COMMITTEE November 24, 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 November 24, 2015
- B. Approve Minutes of September 10, 2015
- C. Receive Commissioner Meeting Attendance Status Report

III. Planning for 2016 and Beyond

Action

Motion A: Consider recommending approval of the 2016 Strategic Plan Update

Motion B: Consider recommending approval of the 2016 Long Term Financial Plan Update

Motion C: Consider recommending approval of 2016-2018 Program Investment Plan *Michele Harris and Megan Richards, First 5 Solano; Lisa Niclai, Applied Survey Research*

IV. Co-Sponsorship of Training and Conferences Fund Applications

Action

Motion A: Consider approval of a request from the Vacaville Family Resource Center (FRC) for an allocation of up to \$714 to host a training for the Solano FRC network in financial planning training for clients

Motion B: Consider approval of a request from Benicia Unified School District for an allocation of up to \$675 to provide handwriting curriculum training for Pre-Kindergarten and Transitional Kindergarten teachers

Motion C: Consider approval of a request from A More Excellent Way for an allocation of up to \$2,500 to provide *Loving Support* Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Training *Ciara Gonsalves, Policy & Fund Development Manager*

V. Receive a First 5 Solano Staffing and Finance Update

Information

Receive a report on First 5 Solano staffing and financials Megan Richards, Deputy Director

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

Information

Systems and Policy Committee December 15, 2015 3:00 – 4:30 PM, 601 Texas Street Suite 210, Fairfield CA. Future agenda items: Planning for 2016 and Beyond, First 5 Solano Budget and Staffing Update; Commissioner Meeting Attendance

ADJOURN

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First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission

System & Policy Committee Meeting November 24, 2015, 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM 601 Texas Street, Suite 210, Fairfield, CA 94533

Minutes

I. Introductions, Commissioner Comment, Public Comment

Commissioner Speck called the meeting to order at 3:07 PM.

Committee members present: Commissioner Jay Speck and Commissioner Aaron Crutison

First 5 Staff present: Megan Richards (Deputy Director), Ciara Gonsalves (Policy and Fund Development Manager)

Public attendees: Christina Branom (via phone conference), and Lisa Niclai (Applied Survey Research), Gloria Diaz (Vacaville FRC)

Commissioner Comment: None

Public Comment: None

II. Consent Calendar

- A. Approve Agenda of November 24, 2015
- B. Approve Minutes of September 10, 2015
- C. Receive Commissioner Meeting Attendance Status Report

Moved: Commissioner Crutison, Seconded: Commissioner Speck

Approved: 2-0-0

III. Planning for 2016 and Beyond

Ms. Richards asked the Committee to consider bringing the Strategic Plan, Long-Term Financial Plan (LTFP), and Program Investment Plan (PIP) to the full Commission for approval. The Strategic Plan sets vision and priorities for the Commission and may be used as a long-term guide. The LTFP is similar in that it sets long-term fiscal policies and projections. Finally, the PIP connects the aforementioned plans and communicates how funds will be allocated among highlighted goals.

Ms. Niclai presented the Draft 2016 Strategic Plan Update. The Commissioners liked the clarity and detail within the report, and confirmed that staff included all Commissioner-recommended revisions from past meetings. The Commissioners also liked that it included the context in which they made their decisions.

Ms. Richards presented the 2016 LTFP Update and explained that the plan is to provide a guiding framework for funding decisions in support of the Strategic Plan, and to soften the landing from the "fiscal cliff." Commissioner Crutison asked if the Financial Model would be updated annual based on actuals. Ms. Richards confirmed. Commissioners again stated that they thought it captured the context and captured the Commission's comments around the System's Change work.

Ms. Richards also presented the Draft 2016-2018 PIP. The PIP specifies programmatic investments for FY2016/17-18. During the two-year funding cycle, the Commission shall shift its focus from funding direct services, to funding a combination of direct services & systems change work. Commissioner Speck asked how staff would address Commissioner's concerns about continuing to fund programs that may need to be refreshed, or funding new programs that may be more effective in reaching the Commission's goal. Ms. Richards explained that the Commission has refined their approach over the last 15 years, but will continue to consider other programs.

Motion A: Consider recommending approval of the 2016 Strategic Plan Update

Moved: Commissioner Crutison, Seconded: Commissioner Speck Approved: 2-0-0

Motion B: Consider recommending approval of the 2016 Long Term Financial Plan Update

Moved: Commissioner Crutison, Seconded: Commissioner Speck Approved: 2-0-0

Motion C: Consider recommending approval of 2016-2018 Program Investment Plan

Moved: Commissioner Crutison, Seconded: Commissioner Speck Approved: 2-0-0

Approved. 2-0-0

IV. Co-Sponsorship of Training and Conferences Fund Application

Ms. Gonsalves asked the Committee to consider approval of \$714 for the Vacaville FRC to train FRC staff on how to better assist families in financial crisis. The training will be provided by the same financial trainer used in the Spark Point centers and Earn It! Keep It! Save It! Commissioner Crutison asked if the training will take place at the Vacaville FRC and how it will be paid for. Ms. Diaz responded that the Vacaville FRC will pay for the facility rental.

Motion A: Consider approval of a request from the Vacaville Family Resource Center (FRC) for an allocation of up to \$714 to host a training for the Solano FRC network in financial planning training for clients

Moved: Commissioner Crutison, Seconded: Commissioner Speck Approved: 2-0-0

Ms. Gonsalves asked the Committee to consider approval of \$675 for handwriting curriculum training for pre-kindergarten and transitional kindergarten teachers. This curriculum is already provided for grades K-12 and this would act as a continuum of services for children participating in preschool and TK at that school district. Commissioner Crutison asked why Benicia USD could not cover the full cost of the training. Ms. Richards clarified that they are coving half the cost, but because it is for the preschool and TK teachers the training is not fully covered by the district; the requestors were invited to the Committee meeting but were not able to make it. Commissioner Speck asked if the preschool program was a state preschool program. Mr. Richards confirmed and added that these teachers also provide First 5 Solano Pre-K Academy services.

Commissioner Speck asked that future requests from school districts be made by an administrator or superintendent as a show of support for the event. Ms. Richards agreed and explained that the applicant, Lynn Hannafin, was writing the application on behalf of the administrators. Commissioner Crutison also asked that future applications clearly indicate which organization would pay the in-kind funds.

Motion B: Consider approval of a request from Benicia Unified School District for an allocation of up to \$675 to provide handwriting curriculum training for Pre-Kindergarten and Transitional Kindergarten teachers

Moved: Commissioner Speck, Seconded: Commissioner Crutison Approved: 2-0-0

Ms. Gonsalves asked the Committee to consider approval of \$2,500 for the Loving Support Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Training. Ms. Gonsalves explained that the Committee has funded the request for Loving Support Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Training each year since FY2007/08. The original request totals \$3,000, however, Ms. Gonsalves recommends funding \$2,500 which excludes a photography fee. Ms. Richards added that staff plans to work with this program in the future by integrating its services at the systems level with similar programs in H&SS.

Motion C: Consider approval of a request from A More Excellent Way for an allocation of up to \$2,500 to provide Loving Support Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Training

Moved: Commissioner Crutison, Seconded: Commissioner Speck Approved: 2-0-0

V. Receive a First 5 Solano Staffing and Finance Update

Ms. Richards reported that Christine Shipman, Health and Well-Being Program Manager, has announced her retirement, effective December 2015. The notification was given after the Committee packet was finalized and was therefore not mentioned in the Staffing Update. The Commission is on fiscally on target.

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

Systems and Policy Committee December 15, 2015 3:00 – 4:30 PM, 601 Texas Street Suite 210, Fairfield CA. Future agenda items: First 5 Solano Budget and Staffing Update; Systems Change Implementation Plan; Commissioner Meeting Attendance

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 PM.

Christiana Lewis, Office Assistant III Approved:



DATE: January 6, 2016

TO: First 5 Solano Commission

FROM: Michele Harris, Executive Director

SUBJ: Executive Director's Report for January 2016

Nurse Family Partnership Letter of Support: On behalf of the Commission, I provided a letter of support (Attachment A) to Solano County Health & Social Services proposal to expand the Nurse Family Partnership program to serve first-time African American and teen mothers. The proposal was submitted to Partnership HealthPlan (PHC) in response to their Social Determinants of Health Solicitation.

"Social determinants of health" is a very broad definition of social, political, and environmental factors that affect population health. PHC is offering \$1.5 million over their 14 county area, making this a highly competitive process. The solicitation aligns well with the goals of the Nurse Family Partnership program and we are hopeful these additional resources will be awarded in Solano.

Special Needs Forum: Children's Nurturing Project and the Local Child Care Planning Council, in coordination with Supervisor Skip Thomson, are hosting the 2nd Solano Special Needs Community Forum on Thursday, January 21st, 6:30-8:30pm at the Solano County Administration Center, 1st floor conference rooms (Attachment B – Flyer). The forum will include service providers, policy makers, community leaders, and parents. All are welcome to participate.

The forum seeks to continue a conversation about the lack of child care for children with special needs that is evident in Solano, with the goal of working together to develop solutions to address this issue. This group has taken on the charge of exploring options and possible legislative solutions to ensure that children with special needs and their families are provided the tools and resources they need to thrive to their best potential.

Executive Directors Workgroups: The 2 subgroups of the Special ED Meetings met in December and discussed the systems change approach (particularly sustainability) that came out of the Commission Retreat. The workgroups discussed the challenge facing the Commission and the 2-year timeframe for making meaningful change. The workgroup participants all agreed that the sustainability challenge requires buy-in and participation from all funded partners. Both workgroups requested that staff present preliminary ideas for addressing sustainability to the larger group, to allow for the group to provide input and react to existing ideas. Additionally, the workgroups recommended also allowing time to receive input on other ideas, but felt that it was better to have a starting place to begin the discussions.

The Special Executive Director Leadership Team meets next on January 14, 2016, following the Help Me Grow Solano meeting.

Third Annual Children and Families Policy Forum-Save the Date: Commissioners are encouraged to mark their calendars for February 27, 2016 from 8:30am-1pm for the Third

Annual Children and Families Policy Forum (Attachment C – Flyer) taking place at the Kroc Center in Suisun. The theme this year is *Solano*, *Stand Up! - Parents & Youth Building Better Communities*. The Forum's goal is to encourage people to stand up and speak out for youth and families about the issues affecting them and their community. Additionally, the Forum will provide an opportunity to educate elected officials about community needs and allow people to learn more about the projects going on in the community and how they can get involved.

IMPACT Hub: As part of the First 5 California (F5CA) IMPACT program, the state has been divided into regions, or Hubs. Solano is included in a Hub with Sonoma, Napa, Lake, Del Norte, Humboldt, and Mendocino Counties. The purpose of the Hub is to support regional training and technical assistance, regional coordination and systems building as well as regional efficiencies associated with implementing local quality improvement activities. We are in the beginning stages of forming the Hub and developing the relationships to work together on this project. Staff will report back once the Hub has solidified its approach to supporting the work as a regional approach.

Library Partnership: First 5 Solano and the Solano County Library have begun preliminary discussions on a partnership to incorporate a dedicated area in each library for early learning activities and support. The concept of an Early Learning Corner aligns with the efforts of the Commission to support early learning in a variety of settings and is a great opportunity to further develop a healthy partnership with our local library network. I will report back as these discussions progress.

2015 Solano County Annual Report: The Board of Supervisors received the 2015 Solano County Annual report at their January 5, 2016 meeting. First 5 Solano's Pre-K Academies are one of many programs that are highlighted in the annual report.

Attachment A: Letter of Support – Solano County Health & Social Services

Attachment B: Special Needs Forum Flyer

Attachment C: Policy Forum Flyer



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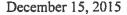
Courtney Perry

College Intern

Ashley Forsyth

College Intern

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.



Partnership HealthPlan of California 4665 Business Center Drive Fairfield, California 94533

Dear Partnership HealthPlan of California,

Subject: Partnership HealthPlan of California Social Determinants of Health Implementation Grant

On behalf of First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission, I wholeheartedly support Solano County Department of Health & Social Services Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health (MCAH) Bureau's grant application to Partnership HealthPlan to expand the Nurse-Family Partnership Home Visiting (NFP) Program to serve first-time African American and teen mothers who reside in Fairfield/Suisun and Vacaville.

The MCAH Bureau has been a leader in the community, working to improve maternal and child health for over twenty-five years. The MCAH Bureau has successfully implemented the NFP program since the inception of program in 2008. Mothers and their children who participate in the NFP program have improved birth outcomes, child safety, and parent-child bonding, school readiness and family self-sufficiency. The program helps decrease healthcare costs, improve the quality of care these families receive, and ultimately improves their quality of life.

First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission works collaboratively with the MCAH Bureau at various community stakeholder meetings to improve access to services and referrals for underserved women, children and their families. First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission is also a member of the Solano County Home Visiting Community Advisory Board; sharing pertinent information, addressing barriers and improving referral linkages in the delivery of home visiting services for pregnant women, their infants and children up to two and three years old depending on the program.

We share the common goals of improving birth outcomes, the quality of care and quality of life for our MCAH population. Your generosity will assist Solano County in expanding services to eligible first-time African American and teen moms we currently are unable to serve due to lack of capacity. First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission is committed to assist by identifying key champion organizations from the target community to reach out to first time moms, connecting them to the NFP program and continuing to partner with the MCAH Bureau in ensuring that vulnerable mothers and children have healthy birth outcomes.

Sincerely.

Executive Director



SAVE THE DATE!



Parents Empowering Parents & Local Child Care Planning Council

Present:



Special Needs Community Forum Part 2



A lack of Special Needs Child Care is evident in our community. Let's work together to come up with solutions!

Date: Thursday, January 21st, 2016

Time: 6:30pm – 8:30pm

Location: Solano County Administration Center

675 Texas Street Fairfield, CA 94533

*Enter the Parking Garage from Webster St. and park on 1^{st} or 2^{nd} floor – *it's free*. Our conference room is a few feet away. Conference rooms 1600, 1610, & 1620*

Invited: Local legislators; Cities; County leaders & Board of

Supervisors; Child Care leaders & providers; parents &

community members.

RSVP: Joshua Bongawil – <u>jbongawil@cnpkids.org</u>

Light refreshments will be served







A partner of the Children's Network of Solano County

Save the Date







SOLANO, STAND UP! PARENTS & YOUTH BUILDING BETTER COMMUNITIES

3rd Annual Solano Children & Families Policy Forum

Stand up and speak out for youth and families about the issues affecting you and your community. Educate your elected officials. Learn more about the projects going on in your community, and how you can get involved.

#SolanoStandUp! #ParentsTakeAction #SolanoTakesAction

We are asking for support. You can help by sponsoring the event at any level. Contact Alan Kerzin, Executive Director, at (707) 421-7229 ext. 102.

Kroc Center
586 E Wigeon Way
Suisun City
Saturday
8:30 am – 1:00 pm

Breakfast & Snacks Provided

No Cost!

No cost child care
and translation
services in
Spanish &
American Sign
Language

For More Information:
Children's Network of
Solano County
2320 Courage Dr. Ste. 107
Fairfield, CA 94533
Phone: (707) 421-7229
Fax: (707) 421-6495
http://www.childnet.org/

