

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

April 5, 2016, 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM
601 Texas Street, Suite 210, Fairfield, CA

Minutes

Commissioners present: Marisela Barbosa (Chair), Liz Niedziela (Vice Chair), Jay Speck, Elise Crane, Jerry Huber, Dan Ayala, Erin Hannigan, and Aaron Crutison

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

Members of the public present: Maria Vicondoa (EMQ FamiliesFirst), Kathy Lago (Solano Family and Children's Services), Debbie Peralez (Child Start), Susan Ferdinandi (Children's Network), Zoila Sanchez (FSUSD), Tamera Owens (Solano Coalition for Better Health), Gloria Diaz (City of Vacaville), Blanche Hilman (Benicia FRC)

Chair Barbosa called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

I. Public Comment

None.

II. Consent Calendar

- A. Approve the April 5, 2016 Commission Meeting Agenda
- B. Approve the March 1, 2016 Commission Meeting Minutes

Motion: Approve the Commission Meeting Agenda for April 5, 2016, and approve minutes of the March 1, 2016 Commission Meeting.

**Moved by Commissioner Hannigan; Seconded by Commissioner Ayala
Approved 8-0-0**

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

III. April Children's Month

Ms. Hunt presented First 5 Solano's Resolution No. 2016-01, proclaiming April 2016 as *Children's Month* in Solano County. Each year First 5 Solano and other community partners across Solano County join together to support various activities and events that help increase knowledge regarding critical children's issues. Ms. Hunt explained that First 5 Solano sponsors many of these events through community engagement grants of up to \$300 each. Ms. Hunt invited the Commissioners to attend April Children's Month events, and view a complete list of funded activities on the First 5 Solano website.

Ms. Hunt reported that the Board of Supervisors also recognized April 2016 as Children's Month at their April 5th meeting.

Motion: Consider approval of Resolution #2016-01 recognizing April 2016 as "Children's Month" in Solano County

**Moved by Commissioner Speck; Seconded by Commissioner Crane
Approved 8-0-0**

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

IV. Give Local Solano

Ms. Connie Harris explained that the *Give Local Solano* campaign is supported by the national *Give Local America* umbrella entity, which empowers individuals to give back to their local communities on the *Big Day of Giving*. The Big Day of Giving is one of the largest 24-hour crowd-funding events in the country and is scheduled for May 3, 2016. Individuals may give to one of the twenty-nine local non-profits, six of which are Commission-funded partners.

The goals of the event are: to raise the \$3 per capita of charitable giving in Solano County, the lowest of all nine Bay Area counties; increase the capacity of local nonprofits; leverage the momentum of the national campaign; inspire residents to make a local difference; and raise awareness of current needs in the community.

The Solano Community Foundation will staff phone lines and provide administrative oversight for event. The Commission's role in this campaign is to assist in the promotion of the event to elected officials and interface with other public entities. KUIC has donated radio air time for outreach across the county.

Commissioner Hannigan asked if donors would be able to find out more information about the agency/recipient through the givelocalsolano.org website. Ms. Harris answered that each agency is given a profile page which contains a brief agency history, explanation of their work, and a link back to their website.

Ms. Lago thanked the Commission and Ms. Harris for their efforts toward Give Local Solano, and pointed out that this event lends support to the Collective Impact movement in the County. The Solano Family and Children's Services is very excited to be involved and has encouraged one their funders, Jansen, to be a sponsor of the event.

V. FY2016-2018 Funding Awards

The FY2016-2018 funding awards are a follow-up to the approved Strategic Plan, Program Investment Plan, and Long-Term Financial Plan in December 2015, and the approved budget in March of 2016. The allocations will be awarded to specific agencies to implement the Program Investment Plan. Recommendations for allocations were constructed from previous allocations and guidelines from the Solano County Purchasing Policy. Allocations that were previously made for Help Me Grow, Mental Health services through FY2016/17, and for the 275 Beck Avenue Head Start Facility through FY2019/20 are not included in the motion.

Pre-Kindergarten Academies: Staff released a Request for Application (RFA) for Pre-K Academy services in support of *Goal 4*, the School Readiness Initiative, and had seven respondents representing all cities except Vallejo. An eighth application from River Delta Unified School District (RDUSD) was received after the application deadline.

A Review Panel recommended funding the highest ranking five applicants, providing a sole source contract to RDUSD, and to continue outreach to Vallejo agencies who may be willing to provide Pre-K Academy services. Staff was able to secure Pre-K Academy services with Child Start, Inc. in Vallejo.

Commissioner Crutison asked if it was too late in the process to engage Vallejo School District to host Pre-K Academies. Ms. Richards responded that staff attempted to engage the school district numerous times during and after the RFA process. The Commissioners and staff discussed the challenges of engaging school districts, particularly in Vallejo, and Commissioner Hannigan suggested reaching out to the superintendent and school board members in future attempts.

The Commission voted on Motions 'A', 'B' and 'C' collectively, but amended Motion 'C' by awarding funding to Child Start, Inc. for up to \$20,000 for FY2016/17. Staff was instructed to engage the Vallejo school district about hosting Pre-K Academies in FY2017/18, and bring recommendations to the full Commission at the end of the current fiscal year.

Staff recommended using the remaining \$3,998 from FY2016/17 under Goal 4 to provide backpacks, books, and other supplies to each Pre-K Academy classroom.

Motion A: Consider approval of awards of funding of up to \$332,004 for Pre-K Academy services in response to Request for Applications #2016-02 for FY2016/17 & FY2017/18 as follows:

1. Up to \$40,000 to Benicia Unified School District for 2 sessions annually
2. Up to \$32,018 to Dixon Unified School District for 2 sessions annually
3. Up to \$139,986 to Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District for 7 sessions annually
4. Up to \$80,000 to Travis Unified School District for 4 sessions annually
5. Up to \$40,000 to Vacaville Unified School District for 2 sessions annually

Motion B: Consider approval of a sole source award of funding of up to \$20,000 to River Delta Unified School District for Pre-Academy services in Rio Vista for FY2016/17 & FY2017/18 (1 session annually)

Motion C: Consider approval of a sole source award of funding of up to \$20,000 to Child Start, Inc., for Pre-Academy services in Vallejo for FY2016/17 (2 sessions)

Moved by Commissioner Hannigan; Seconded by Commissioner Speck

Approved 8-0-0

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Family Support Services: A Request for Proposal (RFP) was released on February 5, 2016 and two applications were received by the March 7, 2016 final filing date. A review panel recommended funding the highest ranking applicant, the Family Resource Center Network.

Motion D: Consider approval of awards of funding of up to \$1,343,602 to Family Resources Centers in response to Request for Proposals #2016-01 for FY2016/17 & FY2017/18 as follows:

1. Up to \$115,536 to City of Benicia Police Department
2. Up to \$126,280 to Dixon Family Services
3. Up to \$379,042 to Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District
4. Up to \$422,604 to Fighting Back Partnership in Vallejo
5. Up to \$107,862 to Rio Vista CARE
6. Up to \$192,278 to City of Vacaville Police Department

Moved by Commissioner Crutison; Seconded by Commissioner Niedziela

Approved 8-0-0

Yea: Commissioners Barbosa, Speck, Crane, Huber, Ayala, and Hannigan

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Commissioners Crutison and Huber recused themselves from voting on Motion 'E'. Ms. Richards explained that the funding allocated to the Solano County Health & Social Services Child Welfare Services and Public Health Nursing are to compliment the work of the Family Resource Centers.

Motion E: Consider approval of an allocation of funding of up to \$375,912 to Solano County Health & Social Services Child Welfare Services and Public Health Nursing for FY2016/17 & FY2017/18

Moved by Commissioner Hannigan; Seconded by Commissioner Niedziela

Approved 6-0-0

Yea: Commissioners Barbosa, Speck, Crane, and Ayala

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Recused: Commissioners Crutison and Huber

Commissioner Huber and Speck recused themselves from voting on Motion 'F'. This motion is based on Solano Coalition for Better Health's (SCBH) unique position to provide outreach and enrollment services to hard-to-reach populations in Solano County. The allocation reflects the reduced funding for Goals 1 & 2 in the Program Investment Plan.

Commissioner Hannigan asked Ms. Owens from SCBH how the Affordable Care Act impacts their work. Ms. Owens answered that the current workload will increase as kids transition from other insurance products to Medi-Cal and will require SCBH to shift their outreach strategies.

Motion F: Consider approval of an allocation of funding of up to \$312,000 to Solano Coalition for Better Health for prenatal health and children's health insurance services for FY2016/17 & FY2017/18

Moved by Commissioner Ayala; Seconded by Commissioner Crutison

Approved 6-0-0

Yea: Commissioners Barbosa, Niedziela, Crane, and Hannigan

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Recused: Commissioners Speck and Huber

Commissioner Speck recused himself from voting on Motion 'G'. Ms. Richards explained that Motion 'G' addresses Goal 3 of the Commission's Strategic Framework. Item number one of the motion provides full-day care services for 40 children. Child Start is able to leverage a 3:1 federal/local match for these services. Item number two is part of First 5 Solano's Quality Care Initiative and is matched 5:1 by First 5 California. Recommendation for the second item is based in part by the fact that the Solano County Office of Education has applied for and received two competitive bids through the California Department of Education for the Quality Rating and Improvement System Block grant, which complements the IMPACT work the Commission is already implementing.

Motion G: Consider approval of an allocation of funding of up to \$806,311 for quality early care and education services for FY2016/17 & FY2017/18 as follows:

- 1. Up to \$288,000 to Child Start, Inc. for Head Start wrap around services***
- 2. Up to \$518,311 to Solano County Office of Education for IMPACT***

Moved by Commissioner Hannigan; Seconded by Commissioner Ayala

Approved 7-0-0

Yea: Commissioners Barbosa, Niedziela, Crane, Huber, and Crutison

Nay: None
Abstain: None
Recused: Commissioner Speck

Ms. Richards told the Commission that the next steps are contract negotiations, presenting the proposed contracts to County Counsel and the Board of Supervisors for approval, and finalizing services to begin on July 1, 2016.

VI. Public Hearing: First 5 CA FY2014/15 Annual Report

Ms. Ellington presented the First 5 California FY2014/15 Annual Report. Proposition 10 statutes require each Commission to conduct a public hearing regarding the state annual report each year. The report highlights the impacts made by the First 5 California Commission and all county commissions, focusing on four key result areas: improved family functioning; improved child development; improved child health, and; improved systems of care. First 5 Solano's contributions are noted on page 17.

Motion G: Consider acceptance of the First 5 California Children and Families Commission's FY2014/15 Annual Report, pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 130150

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

Yea: Commissioners Barbosa, Niedziela, Speck, Crane, Huber, and Crutison
Nay: None
Abstain: None

VII. Committee Reports

A. System and Policy Committee

Ms. Niclai with Applied Survey Research presented the Draft System Change Action Plan that reflects the work of the Commission's 4th Priority Area. The intent of the plan is to: pursue reduced costs across its portfolio due to greater efficiency, cost sharing, pursuit of legislative changes, and leveraging with other systems, and; strengthen the early care systems in the county to better serve children 0-5 and their families.

The plan seeks to approach the early childhood system holistically. One of the striking reasons for pursuing Systems Change is because Solano County foundation funding remains the lowest across the region, even as demand for services remains steady. Ms. Harris explained that the Board of Supervisors has commissioned Applied Survey Research to explore potential reasons why funding is so much lower than neighboring counties. Staff will include new information and data sets as they are collected.

Next steps include: meeting with stakeholders to review strategies, define a leadership structure to oversee implementation, finalize the Systems Change Implementation Plan, and finalize the Systems Change Measurement Plan.

Motion: Consider approval of the Systems Change Action Plan

Moved by Commissioner Huber; Seconded by Commissioner Niedziela

Approved 8-0-0

Yea: Commissioners Barbosa, Speck, Crane, Huber, Ayala, Hannigan and Crutison

Nay: None

Abstain: None

B. Program and Community Engagement Committee

Ms. Hunt demonstrated the newly redesigned First 5 Solano website. The site was refreshed with a user-friendly homepage and other enhancements to communicate activities of the Commission.

Improvements include: more intuitive navigation, a *What's New* section to alert users of new or updated information, an electronic Community Engagement materials ordering process, and a calendar with a schedule of First 5 Solano and community partner events.

VIII. Executive Director's Report

Ms. Harris informed the Commission that she and Commissioners Barbosa and Niedziela will be presenting the updated Strategic Plan to the Board of Supervisors on April 12. Ms. Richards invited the Commission to the Solano's Quality Early Learning System Launch on Saturday, May 14th from 9-12pm.

IX. Commissioner's Remarks

None.

X. Future Agenda Items

The next Commission meeting will be held on June 7, 2016 at 5:30 PM at 601 Texas Street, Conference Room B, Fairfield. Future agenda items include: Collective Impact Update; Committee Reports.

Adjourn

Chair Barbosa adjourned the meeting at 7:35pm.

Christiana Lewis, Office Assistant III

Approved: 