

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

June 23, 2020, 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM

3375 Sonoma Blvd, Suite 30, Vallejo, CA

Minutes

Commissioners present: Mina Diaz, Erin Hannigan.

Commissioners present via Zoom videoconferencing: Lisette Estrella-Henderson
Lenesha Anderson (joined 5:34 PM, left 6:54 PM) Jennifer Barton (left 6:56 PM), Aaron
Crutison, Jerry Huber, Nicole Neff, Tyffany Wanberg

Chair Estrella-Henderson called the meeting to order at 5:31 PM

I. Public Comment

No Public Comment

II. Consent Calendar

A. Approve the June 23, 2020 Commission Meeting Agenda.

Motion: Approve the Commission Meeting Agenda for June 23, 2020.

B. Approve April 7, 2020 Commission Meeting Minutes

Motion: Approve the Commission Meeting Minutes for April 7, 2020

Moved by Commissioner Barton; Seconded by Commissioner Crutison

Approved 8-0-0

**Yea: Commissioners Barton, Crutison, Diaz, Estrella-Henderson, Hannigan,
Huber, Neff, Wanberg**

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Commissioner Anderson joined.

Chair Estrella-Henderson recused herself and left the meeting. Vice-Chair Barton introduced the item and motion.

III. FY2020/21 Annual Grant Allocations of Funding

***A. Motion: Consider approval of allocations of funding of up to \$140,000 for
FY2020/21 Annual Grants in response to Request for Applications #2019-02 as
follows:***

- a. ***Up to \$20,000 to Crum Bum Kids Co. to provide an art program for children to create their own story books***
- b. ***\$20,000 to BIRTHFIT for Everyone to provide support and advocacy during pregnancy and postpartum***
- c. ***\$20,000 to Solano County Office of Education to provide a wellness program for Early Care Educators***
- d. ***\$20,000 to PreK2C to provide Parent Cafés to Adult Education students***
- e. ***\$20,000 to Matrix Parent Network to provide videoconference trainings to parents of children with special needs***
- f. ***\$20,000 to La Clinica de la Raza to provide the Centering Parent Program at their North Vallejo site***
- g. ***Up to \$20,000 to The Immersive Learning Center to provide a nutrition education program***

Juanita Morales, First 5 Solano Program Manager, described the programs that were recommended by the panel for Annual Grant funding and outlined the process to arrive at the recommendations. Commissioner Hannigan asked for a description of Parent Cafes. Ms. Morales explained they are a facilitated safe space for parents to discuss their parenting challenges and focus on family-strengthening protective factors.

Moved by Commissioner Neff; Seconded by Commissioner Diaz

Approved 8-0-0

Yea: Commissioners Anderson, Barton, Crutison, Diaz, Hannigan, Huber, Neff, Wanberg

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Recuse: Commissioner Estrella-Henderson

Chair Estrella-Henderson returned and continued running the meeting.

B. Motion: Consider redirecting unallocated FY2020/21 Annual Grant funding of \$60,000 to the Emergency Response Fund for FY2020/21

Megan Richards, First 5 Solano Deputy Director, recounted that the Commission approved an Emergency Response Fund and Policy at the April 2020 meeting and that there was a very high level of interest. Far more applications came in for the FY2020/21 funds than the approved \$50,000 could cover. There remains \$60,000 in unspent funds from the FY2020/21 annual grants allocation. Staff is recommending these funds be reallocated toward the FY2020/21 Emergency Response Fund.

Chair Estrella-Henderson asked how the evaluation process works for these funds. Ms. Richards explained First 5 Solano Program Manager Lorraine Fernandez does an initial review and sends applications to Policy and Oversight Committee Chair Barton. Ms. Fernandez has determined fixed amounts to approve for commonly requested items such as hand-washing stations. All awardees complete a legal agreement and must return funds if unable to fulfill their contract. Commissioner Huber asked if any applicants had current contracts with First 5 Solano or the County, whether they were responding due to COVID-related cashflow issues, and

whether they have applied for COVID stimulus funding. Ms. Richards reported some did have contracts, but these funds are not for programs or activities, only for needs directly related to COVID-19, including basic needs assistance. Some childcare providers have been approved for staffing costs, but not for cashflow. Many agencies have reported that they have looked into the stimulus application process and determined it was very complex for the small amounts being requested by small childcare providers.

**Moved by Commissioner Hannigan; Seconded by Commissioner Huber
Approved 9-0-0**

**Yea: Commissioners Anderson, Barton, Crutison, Diaz, Estrella-Henderson,
Hannigan, Huber, Neff, Wanberg**

Nay: None

Abstain: None

IV. Public Hearing: First 5 California FY2018/19 Annual Report

Motion: Consider acceptance of the First 5 California Children and Families Commission's FY2018/19 Annual Report, pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 130150

Chair Estrella-Henderson opened the public hearing.

Juanita Morales highlighted key areas of the FY2018/19 Annual Report and reminded Commissioners that the report predates COVID-19 and much has since changed. Ms. Morales explained how State dollars are distributed and allocated toward improved family functioning, child development, child health, and systems of care. The report revealed total numbers of services provided, total expenditures, and populations served. Ms. Morales also reviewed highlights of First 5 Solano's FY2018/19 Report to First 5 California.

**Moved by Commissioner Barton; Seconded by Commissioner Anderson
Approved 9-0-0**

**Yea: Commissioners Anderson, Barton, Crutison, Diaz, Estrella-Henderson,
Hannigan, Huber, Neff, Wanberg**

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Chair Estrella-Henderson closed the public hearing.

V. First 5 Center Tenant Improvement Reconciliation

Deputy Director Megan Richards reported that the final tenant improvement expenditure for the First 5 Center in Vallejo came in approximately \$20,000 under budget at a total of \$1,750,140. Of this expenditure, fundraising efforts raised \$1,606,500, or 92%. The \$143,640 balance will come out of the First 5 Commission FY2019/20 budget via the Long-Term Financial Plan and be funded by the Commission's reserve.

The First 5 Center plans to reopen on a reduced scale July 13th and Center staff have been working through the Shelter-In-Home orders, developing lesson plans, completing trainings, and serving families remotely.

VI. Nonprofit Capacity Building- Vision & Impact Cohort

Lorraine Fernandez gave brief background of the four years of collaboration between First 5 Solano and Solano County Health & Social Services to bring nonprofit capacity building supports to Solano County. Nine nonprofits were selected to participate in the Solano Vision & Impact Cohort program held from November 2019 to May 2020 through in-person meetings, virtual meetings, and individual agency coaching sessions, culminating in a graduation and the completion of Theories of Change (TOCs). Ms. Fernandez introduced two of the nonprofit leaders who attended the program: Kathy Lago, Solano Family and Children's Services (SFCS) Executive Director (ED), and Colleen Berumen, Vacaville Solano Services Corporation ED, who both shared information on their agencies and the TOCs they developed during the Cohort.

Ms. Lago shared that the Cohort provided a great opportunity to think about how best to share the work SFCS does and their impact in the community. Ms. Berumen appreciated the opportunity to view participant outcomes in a different way and shared a recent success her agency had. Commissioner Hannigan expressed appreciation for the value of the program strengthening nonprofits throughout the County. Chair Estrella-Henderson congratulated all participants and declared the program a success and example of the fruit of the Commission's strategic thinking and allocation of resources.

In response to Ms. Fernandez's earlier report that First 5 and H&SS are pausing the next nonprofit capacity-building cohort, Board Development and Governance, Commissioner Crutison asked if the individuals on Boards of the agencies would continue to reflect upon their role and purpose in the community as the work pauses. Ms. Berumen said her board is very interested in moving forward with board development and bringing fresh voices is an ongoing effort. Ms. Lago reported her board will continue to use the resources from the program, with or without funding or another cohort.

Commissioners Anderson and Barton left.

VII. Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Michele Harris reported that a Request for Proposals has been released for additional Triple P parent education providers. First 5 Solano will be partnering with Solano County Public Health to submit a proposal to First 5 California to strengthen home visiting coordination in the county. Ms. Morales gave an update on Pre-K academies, many of which had to be cancelled due to COVID-19. Four contractors will be able to provide 8 sessions starting in July. Kwiana Algere, First 5 Solano's Health Education Specialist, recapped the multiday drive-through diaper and wipe distribution First 5 Solano coordinated in partnership with six sites. Ms. Algere thanked all the volunteers, including four Commissioners.

VIII. Commissioner Remarks

Commissioner Crutison expressed thanks for all the support during difficult times in Child Welfare. Commissioner Huber shared some welcome positive news from the budget negotiations between the Governor and the Legislature. Commissioner Wanberg reported greatly enjoying working of the diaper event. Chair Estrella-Henderson closed by reminding everyone to exercise self-care in difficult times.

IX. Future Agenda Items

The next Commission meeting will be held on August 11, 2020 at 5:30PM at 3375 Sonoma Boulevard, Suite 30 in Vallejo. Future agenda items include: Triple P New Provider Allocations of Funding, ECE Follow-up Report; Committee Report.

Adjourn

Chair Estrella-Henderson adjourned the meeting at 7:29 PM.

Luke Winders, Office Assistant III

Approved:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Jm', is written over the 'Approved:' text.