

**COMMISSION MEETING**  
**April 17, 2024 – 3:00-5:00pm**  
**3375 Sonoma Blvd, Suite 30, Vallejo, CA 94590**

**Public Comments:**

Public Comment may be provided: During the meeting via the phone/computer audio when the Chair calls for Public Comment on an item; or submitting written public comments to First 5 Solano via email at [cfcsolano@solanocounty.com](mailto:cfcsolano@solanocounty.com) by 2:00pm on the day of the meeting.

**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 April 17, 2024 Commission Meeting Agenda
- B. Approve the [March 20, 2024 Commission Meeting Minutes](#)

**III. Election of Officers** (5 min)

**Action**

Consider approval of the appointment of Neely McElroy as 2024 Chair and Lisette Estrella-Henderson as 2024 Vice-Chair of the First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission  
*Michele Harris, Executive Director*

**IV. Child Care Provider Appreciation Day Resolution** (10 min)

**Action**

Adopt a resolution recognizing May 8, 2024 as [Child Care Provider Appreciation Day](#)  
*Alicia Gutierrez, Health Education Specialist; Kathy Lago, Executive Director, Solano Family and Children's Services*

**V. Strategic Plan Review & Review Community Indicators of Child Well-Being** (45 min)

**Action**

Review the Commission's [Strategic Plan](#) and data on community indicators of child well-being

*Michele Harris, Executive Director; Lisa Nicolai, Applied Survey Research*

**VI. Annual Grant Allocations of Funding** (15 min)

**Action**

Consider approval of allocations of funding for up to \$52,140 for FY2024/25 Annual Grants in response to Request for Applications #2024-01 as follows

- a. \$12,140 to Circle of Friends to provide Conscious Discipline teacher coaching, parent education, and family activities.
- b. \$20,000 to Make it Home to expand the reach of Make it Home services to families in Solano County with children ages 5 and under to ensure that families are safe, stable and self-sufficient through providing furniture.
- c. \$20,000 to Solano County Health Equity for African American/Black Lives to provide race equity trainings for healthcare professionals serving Black babies, mothers, and families.

*(Source of funds: 2023-2028 Program Investment Plan)*

*Kwiana Algere, Program Manager*

**VII. Executive Director's Report** (15 min)

**Information**

*Michele Harris, Executive Director*

**VIII. Commissioner Remarks** (5 min)

Information

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

Information

The next regularly scheduled Commission Meeting is June 19, 2024 at 3:00PM at 3375 Sonoma Boulevard, Suite 30, Vallejo. Future agenda items include: Allocations of Funding, Grantee presentation

**ADJOURN**

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

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

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

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

March 20, 2024, 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM  
3375 Sonoma Blvd, Suite 30, Vallejo, CA

**Minutes**

Commissioners present: Lisette Estrella-Henderson, Roger Robinson, Nimat Shakoor-Grantham, Amy Fabi, Neely McElroy

Chair McElroy called the meeting to order at 3:10 PM.

**I. Public Comment**

First 5 Solano Executive Director Michele Harris announced an amendment to the agenda; under Item V, amount allocated to Bay Area Community Resources will be \$641,500.

**II. Consent Calendar**

***Motion:***

- A. Approve the March 20, 2024 Commission Meeting Agenda as amended***
- B. Approve the January 24, 2024 Commission Meeting Minutes***

**Consent Calendar moved by Commissioner Estrella-Henderson; Seconded by Commissioner Amy Fabi**

**Approved 6-0-0**

**Yea: Commissioners Estrella-Henderson, Robinson, Shakoor-Grantham, Walker-Gibson, Fabi, McElroy**

**Nay: None**

**Abstain: None**

**III. April Children's Month Resolutions**

***Motion: Adopt resolutions #2024-02 and #2024-03 recognizing April 2024 as Children's Month and Child Abuse Prevention Month***

**April Children's Month Resolutions moved by Commissioner Shakoor-Grantham; Seconded by Commissioner Estrella-Henderson**

**Approved 6-0-0**

**Yea: Commissioners Estrella-Henderson, Robinson, Shakoor-Grantham, Walker-Gibson, Fabi, McElroy**

**Nay: None**

**Abstain: None**

#### **IV. Public Hearing: First 5 California Annual Report**

***Motion: Approve the First 5 California Children and Families Commission's FY2022/23 Annual Report***

*[Public hearing was opened at 3:28 PM]*

First 5 Solano Policy and Fund Manager Toya Adams presented the First 5 California Annual Report. Each year, Prop 10 requires the First 5 California Commission prepare an annual report on what the 58 counties statewide have been contributing to the well-being of children ages 0-5 and their families. Continuing investments include Home Visiting Coordination, Stronger Starts public education and awareness campaign, Dragon Song campaign. New investments include \$10M to strengthen the 0-5 strategy, foundational research for Fatherhood Initiative, and newly developed partnerships with the Sacramento Kings, Los Angeles Dodgers, PBS Kids amongst others. The annual report featured four result areas, including improved family resiliency, improved child development, improved child health, and improved systems of care. Ms. Adams also highlighted the F5CA inclusion of the Early Learning Center in Vallejo as a Solano County highlight.

*[Public hearing was closed at 3:43 PM]*

**First 5 California Annual Report moved by Commissioner Estrella-Henderson; Seconded by Commissioner Fabi**

**Approved 6-0-0**

**Yea: Commissioners Estrella-Henderson, Robinson, Shakoor-Grantham, Walker-Gibson, Fabi, McElroy**

**Nay: None**

**Abstain: None**

#### **V. First 5 Solano FY2024/25 Annual Budget**

First 5 Solano Deputy Director Denise Winters presented the FY2024/25 Annual Budget. This budget will be effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 until June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025. The budget does not include funds that are not secured. While projected revenue is considerably lower than last year, revenue generated last fiscal year is included as expenditures this coming year for the ELC, and will not be a major factor for next fiscal year.

***Motion:***

***A. Approve the First 5 Solano FY2024/25 Proposed Budget***

***B. Delegate authority to the Executive Director to incorporate additional grant funds into the FY2024/25 budget, should they be received***

***C. Approve allocation of \$641,500 to Bay Area Community Resources for the First 5 Center (Source of funds: 2023-2028 Program Investment Plan, Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation Funds, Mental Health Services Act Prevention and Early Intervention Funds)***

***D. Receive a report on the \$2,170,291 Board of Supervisors (BOS) Community Investment Fund (CIF), which will obligate 1.5 FTE's to First 5 Solano's management responsibility (Source of funds: Solano County General Fund, as approved by the Solano County Board of Supervisors, November 2023)***

**(A) Approve the First 5 Solano FY2024/25 Proposed Budget**

**First 5 Solano FY2024/25 Annual Report Motion A moved by Commissioner Shakoor-Grantham; Seconded by Commissioner Robinson**

**Approved 6-0-0**

**Yea: Commissioners Estrella-Henderson, Robinson, Shakoor-Grantham, Walker-Gibson, Fabi, McElroy**

**Nay: None**

**Abstain: None**

**(B) Delegate authority to the Executive Director to incorporate additional grant funds into the FY2024/25 budget, should they be received**

**First 5 Solano FY2024/25 Annual Report Motion B moved by Commissioner Estrella-Henderson; Seconded by Commissioner Fabi**

**Approved 6-0-0**

**Yea: Commissioners Estrella-Henderson, Robinson, Shakoor-Grantham, Walker-Gibson, Fabi, McElroy**

**Nay: None**

**Abstain: None**

**(C) Approve allocation of \$641,500 to Bay Area Community Resources for the First 5 Center (Source of funds: 2023-2028 Program Investment Plan, Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation Funds, Mental Health Services Act Prevention and Early Intervention Funds)**

**First 5 Solano FY2024/25 Annual Report Motion C moved by Commissioner Estrella-Henderson; Seconded by Commissioner Fabi**

**Approved 6-0-0**

**Yea: Commissioners Estrella-Henderson, Robinson, Shakoor-Grantham, Walker-Gibson, Fabi, McElroy**

**Nay: None**

**Abstain: None**

***(D) Receive a report on the \$2,170,291 Board of Supervisors (BOS) Community Investment Fund (CIF), which will obligate 1.5 FTE's to First 5 Solano's management responsibility (Source of funds: Solano County General Fund, as approved by the Solano County Board of Supervisors, November 2023)***

**First 5 Solano FY2024/25 Annual Report Motion D moved by Commissioner Shakoor-Grantham; Seconded by Commissioner Robinson**

**Approved 6-0-0**

**Yea: Commissioners Estrella-Henderson, Robinson, Shakoor-Grantham, Walker-Gibson, Fabi, McElroy**

**Nay: None**

**Abstain: None**

**VI. Executive Director's Report**

First 5 Solano Executive Director Michele Harris gave an update on Annual Grants (grants award up to \$20k to successful applicants), indicating that there were 22 applicants who submitted a Letter of Intent and of those, 21 held a grant development session with F5S staff, and 12 ultimately applied. Ms. Harris also noted that the launch party held for the Early Learning Center was received well and that construction on the ELC will begin in May. In connection with that, F5S staff conducted a tour of the ELC for the Syar Foundation last month, aiming for a significant donation to support the building of a Community Resource Building at the ELC site. Additionally, Ms. Harris indicated that March 25<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> F5S staff, along with Commissioner Fabi and Hannigan, will be attending First 5 California's annual summit. Ms. Harris will be a speaker at two presentations during the conference.

**VII. Commissioner Remarks**

Commissioner Chair Fabi announced that due to her Governor appointed spot on the First 5 California Commission, it will be necessary for her to resign from the F5S Commission. Ms. Fabi read her resignation letter to the Commission and received positive and heartfelt feedback from her fellow Commissioners, thanking her for her service and wishing her luck.

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

The next regularly scheduled Commission Meeting is April 17, 2024 at 3:00PM at 3375 Sonoma Boulevard, Suite 30, Vallejo. Future agenda items: Strategic Plan Review, Community Indicators Review, Allocations of Funding

**Adjourn**

Chair McElroy adjourned the meeting at 4:44 PM.

Caitlin Brakefield, Office Assistant III

Approved:

**DATE:** April 12, 2024  
**TO:** First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission  
**FROM:** Michele Harris, Executive Director  
**SUBJ:** Election of 2024 First 5 Solano Commission Officers

**Motion: Consider approval of the appointment of Neely McElroy as 2024 Chair and Lisette Estrella-Henderson as 2024 Vice-Chair of the First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission, April 2024 – December 2024**

Each year, the First 5 Solano Commission elects its officers (Chair and Vice-Chair) for the next year as per its Bylaws. The Commission has a past practice of offering the chair and vice-chair officer positions to those commissioners that have joined the commission and have not yet served as an officer, and can participate for 3 years on the Policy and Oversight Committee (past chair, chair, vice chair). Based on this tenure, the two Commissioners listed above have agreed to serve as the next Chair and Vice-Chair of the Commission. The current Chair, Amy Fabi, has been appointed to the First 5 California Commission, effectively removing Amy Fabi from the First 5 Solano Commission, once a replacement has been selected for her seat on the Commission.

This item brings forward a motion to approve Neely McElroy as 2024 Chair and Lisette Estrella-Henderson as 2024 Vice-Chair of the First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission. With the appointment of Amy Fabi to the First 5 CA Commission, these officers serve a term of April 2024 – December 2024 in the position, beginning with the April Commission meeting.

# *Resolution No. 2024-04*

## **RESOLUTION OF THE FIRST 5 SOLANO CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION PROCLAIMING MAY 10, 2024 AS CHILD CARE PROVIDER APPRECIATION DAY**

**WHEREAS**, high quality child care and early education play a crucial role in child development, health and nutrition, child abuse prevention, and social-emotional outcomes that result in enhanced school readiness, and successful K-12 educational and higher education experiences; and

**WHEREAS**, child care providers include teachers and caregivers in child care centers, family child care homes, extended family, friends, and neighbors, all of whom are essential to supporting working parents; and

**WHEREAS**, there are over 550 licensed child care providers, over 1,000 license-exempt child care providers, and countless other community members in Solano County who provide this essential service which supports the local economy; and

**WHEREAS**, child care programs, which are mostly small businesses, run and staffed predominantly by women, are still recovering from health and financial hardships stemming from the pandemic while they have continued to meet the needs of families; and

**WHEREAS**, Solano County has acknowledged the crucial role that child care plays in the local economy, resource infrastructure during emergencies, and in everyday lives of community members who count on safe and reliable child care to work, go to school, and become self-sufficient; and

**WHEREAS**, Solano Family and Children Services in partnership with the Solano County Workforce Development Board and Small Business Development Center, continues to engagement in a childcare provider recruitment and business development campaign with the goal of expanding the availability of licensed childcare settings prepared to serve families with strong business skills and quality childcare in Solano County;

**WHEREAS**, Solano Family & Children's Services, the First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission, the Local Child Care Planning Council, along with advocacy organizations across the United States, will be increasing awareness of the importance of child care providers on May 10, 2024.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission does hereby proclaim May 10, 2024 as Child Care Provider Appreciation Day in Solano County.

Dated this 17<sup>th</sup> day of April 2024

\_\_\_\_\_  
Neely McElroy, Chair  
First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission  
ATTEST:  
Caitlin Brakefield, Office Assistant III  
First 5 Solano  
By: \_\_\_\_\_



**DATE:** April 12, 2024

**TO:** First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission

**FROM:** Michele Harris, Executive Director

**SUBJ:** **Strategic Plan Review and Review of Community Indicators of Child Well-Being**

The First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission is required by statute to annually review its Strategic Plan. This Commission last updated its Strategic Plan in 2022. This meeting serves as the required annual review of the Strategic Plan.

In support of the implementation of the Commission's Strategic Plan, the Commission receives an annual update on the standing of common community indicators regarding the status of young children and their families. Staff is pleased to be able to share the community indicators via the First 5 Solano website, which will allow anyone to access the data, as well as update the data as new data becomes available (a minimum of twice a year). The community indicator data can be accessed at: [http://www.solanocounty.com/depts/first5/community\\_indicator\\_data.asp](http://www.solanocounty.com/depts/first5/community_indicator_data.asp).

[Attachment A](#): Strategic Plan and Community Indicators Presentation

[Attachment B](#): Community Indicators – Demographics

[Attachment C](#): Community Indicators – Health & Well-being

[Attachment D](#): Community Indicators – Early Childhood Learning

[Attachment E](#): Community Indicators – Family Support and Parent Education

[Attachment F](#): Community Indicators – Disparities in Child and Family Well-being



# FIRST 5 SOLANO STRATEGIC PLAN REVIEW

April 17, 2024



# Strategic Plan Overview

- Your Strategic Plan provides a framework for making investment decisions that address current needs and align with your priorities and values
- Last updated in 2022 given significant changes in the community
  - First 5 Solano’s increased systems change efforts and successes
  - COVID-19 and its lasting impact on the workforce (child care, nursing, mental health)
  - Increased awareness and attention to equity

# Defining Core Values

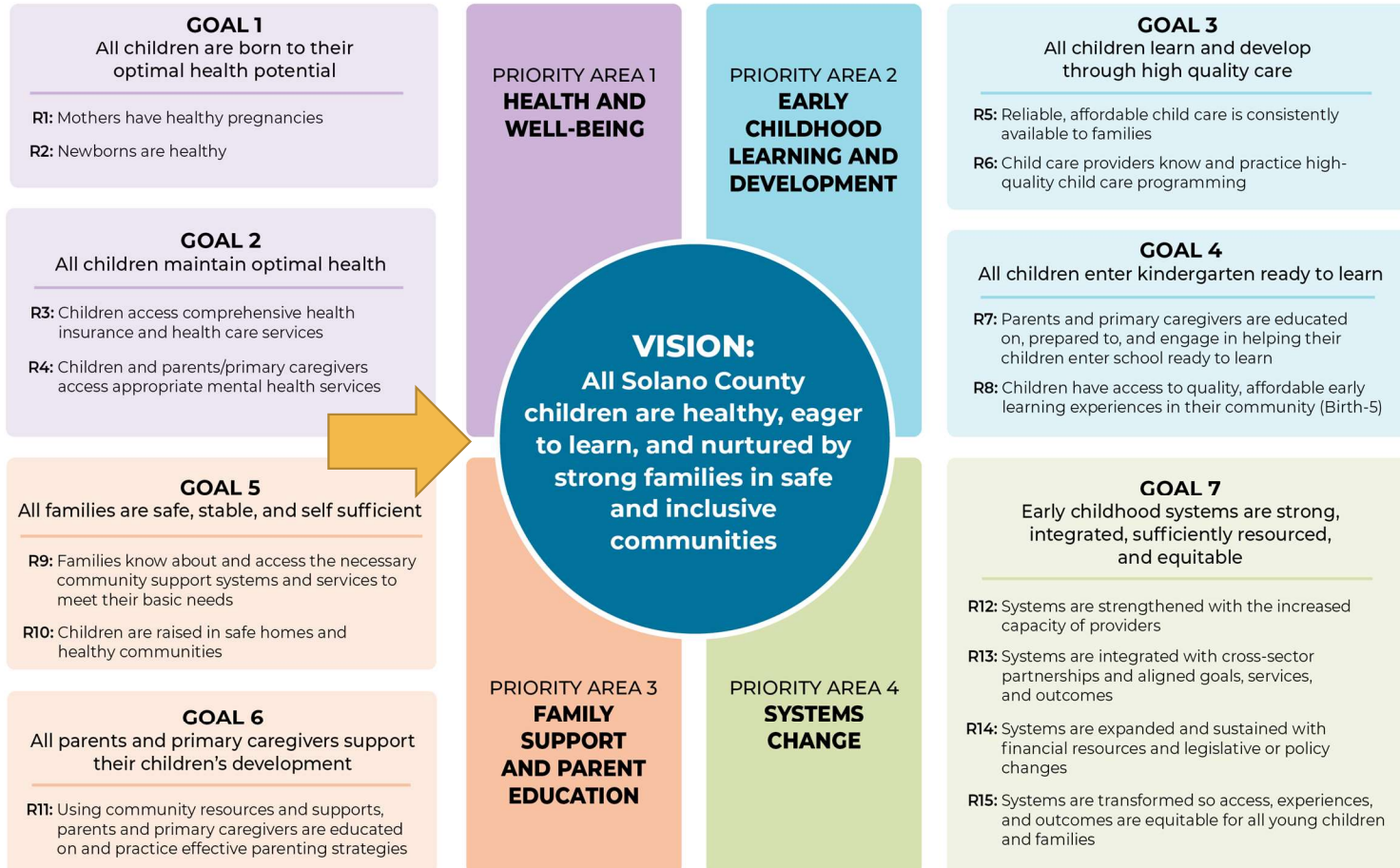
What three values should be central to the work of First 5 Solano and its partners to support young children and families?

Mentimeter



# FIRST 5 SOLANO STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

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



**VALUES: EQUITY - ACCESSIBILITY - SUSTAINABILITY - ADVOCACY - COLLABORATION - RESPECT**



# FIRST 5 SOLANO STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

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

## GOAL 1

All children are born to their optimal health potential

- R1: Mothers have healthy pregnancies
- R2: Newborns are healthy

## GOAL 2

All children maintain optimal health

- R3: Children access comprehensive health insurance and health care services
- R4: Children and parents/primary caregivers access appropriate mental health services

## GOAL 5

All families are safe, stable, and self sufficient

- R9: Families know about and access the necessary community support systems and services to meet their basic needs
- R10: Children are raised in safe homes and healthy communities

## GOAL 6

All parents and primary caregivers support their children's development

- R11: Using community resources and supports, parents and primary caregivers are educated on and practice effective parenting strategies

PRIORITY AREA 1  
**HEALTH AND WELL-BEING**

PRIORITY AREA 2  
**EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT**

PRIORITY AREA 3  
**FAMILY SUPPORT AND PARENT EDUCATION**

PRIORITY AREA 4  
**SYSTEMS CHANGE**

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

## GOAL 3

All children learn and develop through high quality care

- R5: Reliable, affordable child care is consistently available to families
- R6: Child care providers know and practice high-quality child care programming

## GOAL 4

All children enter kindergarten ready to learn

- R7: Parents and primary caregivers are educated on, prepared to, and engage in helping their children enter school ready to learn
- R8: Children have access to quality, affordable early learning experiences in their community (Birth-5)

## GOAL 7

Early childhood systems are strong, integrated, sufficiently resourced, and equitable

- R12: Systems are strengthened with the increased capacity of providers
- R13: Systems are integrated with cross-sector partnerships and aligned goals, services, and outcomes
- R14: Systems are expanded and sustained with financial resources and legislative or policy changes
- R15: Systems are transformed so access, experiences, and outcomes are equitable for all young children and families

**VALUES: EQUITY - ACCESSIBILITY - SUSTAINABILITY - ADVOCACY - COLLABORATION - RESPECT**

# FIRST 5 SOLANO STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

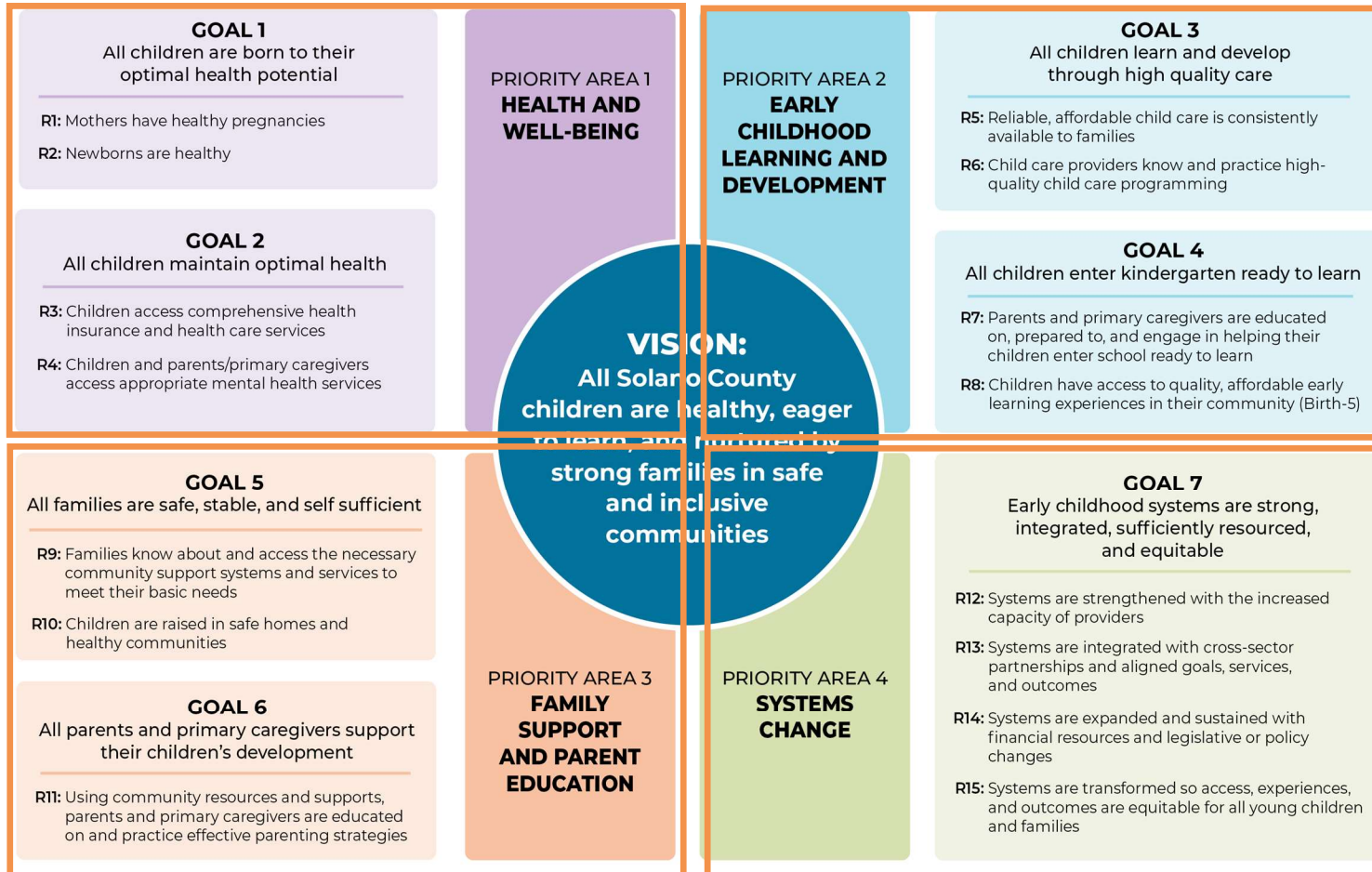
**MISSION:** First 5 Solano is a catalyst that strategically advances innovative, prevention-focused approaches across systems that improve the lives of young children and their families.



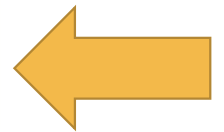
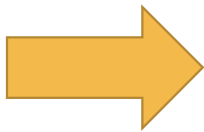
**VALUES: EQUITY - ACCESSIBILITY - SUSTAINABILITY - ADVOCACY - COLLABORATION - RESPECT**

# FIRST 5 SOLANO STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

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



**VALUES: EQUITY - ACCESSIBILITY - SUSTAINABILITY - ADVOCACY - COLLABORATION - RESPECT**





Your full strategic plan  
can be accessed [here](#).

Questions?

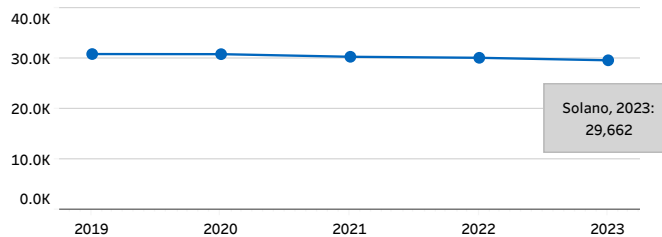


The most recent data points are shown in the grey boxes.

## Birth Rate and Young Child Population

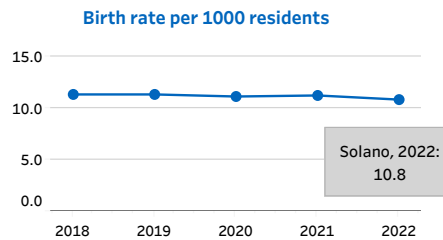
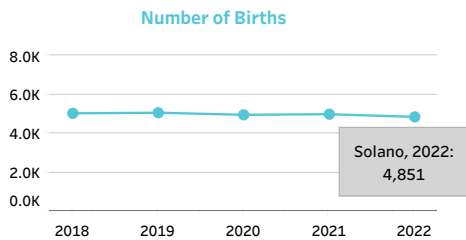
### Number of children 0-5 in Solano County

The number of children 0-5 in Solano County has remained stable over the last several years at around 30,000 children.



### Number of births and birth rate per 1000 residents in Solano County

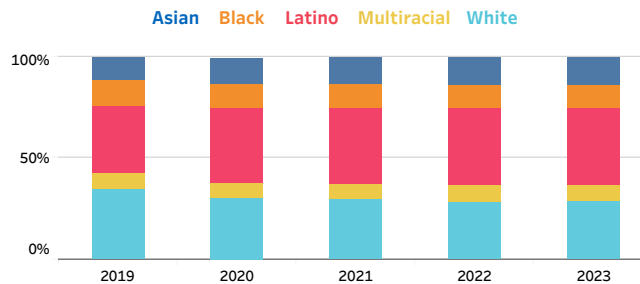
The number of births and the birth rate have not changed significantly over the last several years, remaining at about 5,000 births and 11 births per 1,000 residents each year.



## Child Population by Race/Ethnicity

### Percent of children 0-5 in Solano County over time by race/ethnicity

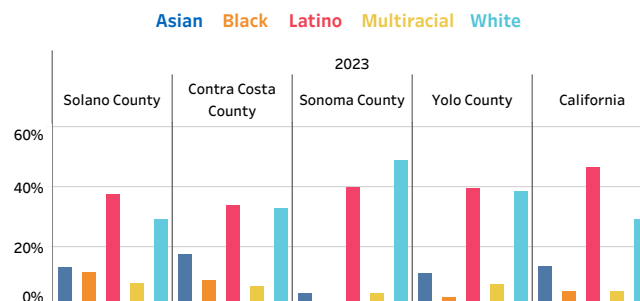
In 2023, 37% of children 0-5 in the county were Latino, 29% were White, 13% were Asian, 12% were Black, and 8% were multicultural.



### Percent of children by race/ethnicity and county

View by... Ages 0-5

Solano County is one of the most diverse counties in California. Relative to most neighboring counties, it has a higher proportion of children who are Black and lower proportion of children who are White.

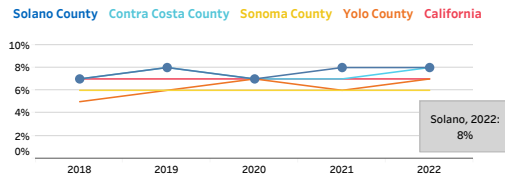


The most recent data points are shown in the grey boxes.

## Low Birth Weight Rate

### Percent of babies born low birth weight

The low-birth-weight rate held steady at 8% between 2021 and 2022. The rate remains similar to the rate in Contra Costa County but is slightly higher than the rates in Sonoma and Yolo Counties and the state overall. Low birth rate is most often caused by prematurity.

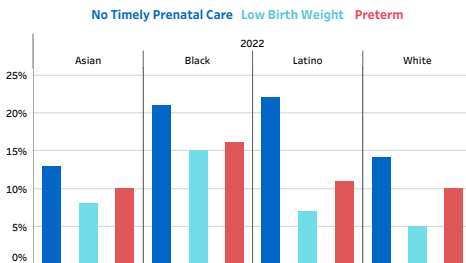


## Healthy Births and Ethnicity

### Percent of babies born in Solano County with risk factors, by race/ethnicity

Latina and Black people are least likely to receive timely prenatal care. A lack of prenatal care also contributes to poor birth outcomes among Black babies.

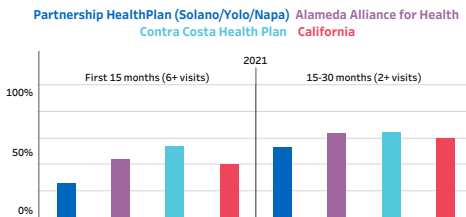
Research has shown that women of color have historically experienced institutional racism, cultural or linguistic barriers, and lack of access to quality care, which have adversely impacted their perinatal outcomes.



## Well-Child Visits

### Percent of children on Medi-Cal with recommended number of well-child visits, by age

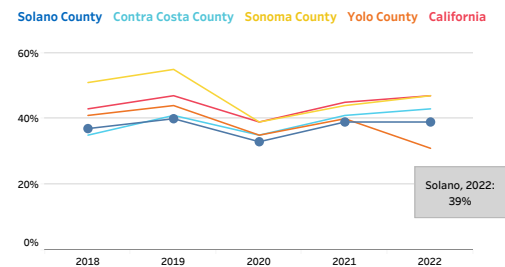
Only 26% of children ages 0-15 months with Medi-Cal attended the recommended number of well-child visits in 2021. However, over half of children ages 15-30 months had a well-child visit, and the rate is only slightly lower than in nearby counties and the state.



## Dental Visits

### Percent of children ages 1-5 on Denti-Cal who had a dental check up in the past 12 months

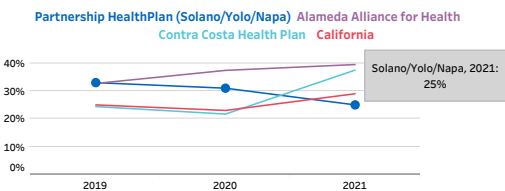
By 2022, the percent of children ages 1-5 receiving a dental check-up had returned to pre-COVID-19 rates.



## Developmental Screenings

### Percent of children on Medi-Cal with a developmental screening in the first three years of life

In 2021, 25% of children ages 0-3 on Medi-Cal received a developmental screening, a rate lower than in other surrounding counties and the state overall.



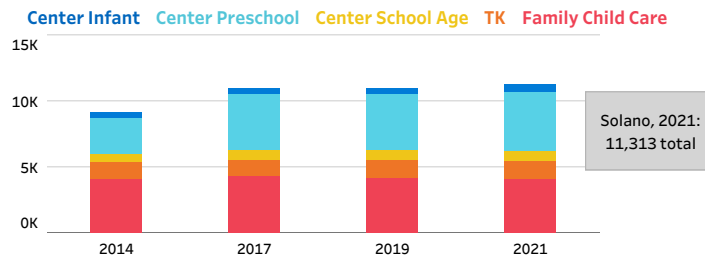
The most recent data points are shown in the grey boxes.

## Licensed Care Availability

The charts below reflect publicly available data on licensed child care. It should be noted that the number of active licenses and licensed slots do not reflect the numbers of children actually enrolled in licensed care nor slots available in unlicensed or licensed exempt care.

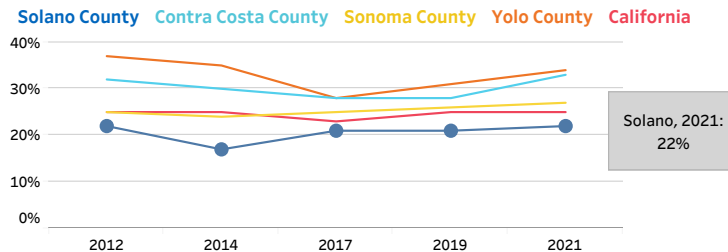
### Licensed child care slots in Solano County

Despite a significant drop in the availability of licensed care during temporary COVID-19 pandemic site closures in 2020, the number of slots actually increased between 2019 and 2021. The increase in capacity was limited to center-based settings.



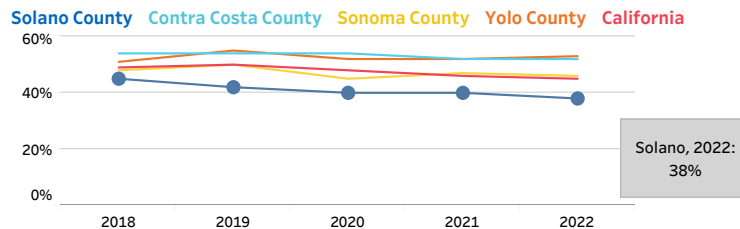
### Percent of children 0-12 with working parents for whom there is available licensed care

The availability of child care for working parents is still lower in Solano County than in comparison counties and the state overall.



### Percent of children 3-4 enrolled in preschool or TK

Fewer than half of children aged 3-4 in Solano County are enrolled in preschool, a rate lower than it is in neighboring counties and the state overall.

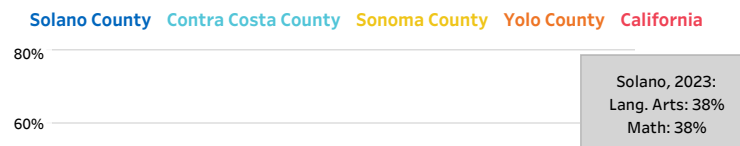


## Third Grade Proficiency

### Third graders meeting or exceeding standards by Solano County school district

View by... Math

While Solano County's third grade proficiency rates decreased slightly from 2019 to 2022, they remained steady from 2022 to 2023. The rates, however, continue to be lower than in comparison counties and the state overall.



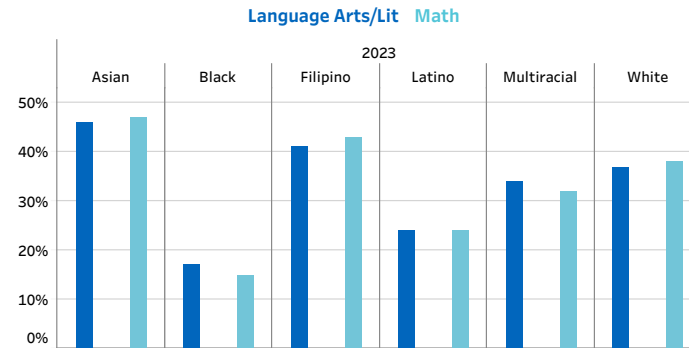


Note: Standardized testing was not done in 2020 and was limited in 2021 due to COVID.

### Third graders meeting or exceeding standards in Solano County, by race/ethnicity and socioeconomic status

View by... Economically Disadvantaged Thi..

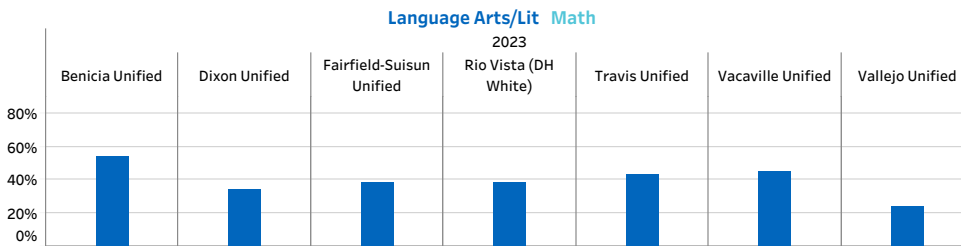
Black, Latino, and Multicultural children are less likely to be proficient than Asian, Filipino, and White children in Language Arts/Literacy and Math. For most racial/ethnic groups, this disparity is seen regardless of socioeconomic status and therefore points to other disparities such as inequitable access to quality of early care and education.



### Third graders meeting or exceeding standards, by Solano school district

View by... Language Arts/Literacy

Third grade proficiency rates were highest in Benicia and lowest in Vallejo.



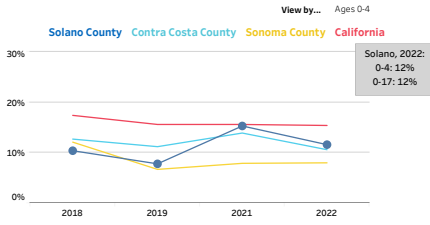
Date of last update: 4/2/2024

The most recent data points are shown in the grey boxes.

## Poverty

### Poverty rate

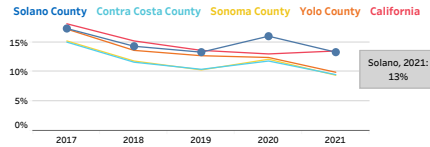
The poverty rate among children under 5 increased from 8% in 2019 to 15% in 2021, but subsequently decreased to 12% in 2022. The rates in Solano County are now higher than in surrounding counties, but remain below that of the state overall.



## Food Insecurity

### Estimated percent of children under 18 in food insecure households

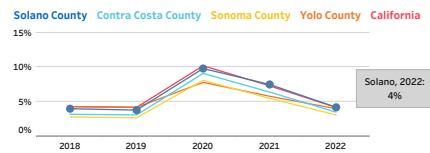
The percent of children living in food insecure homes decreased by three percentage points from 2020 and 2021. This rate is now similar to the rate in the state overall but remains higher than the rates in several surrounding counties.



## Unemployment

### Annual unemployment rate

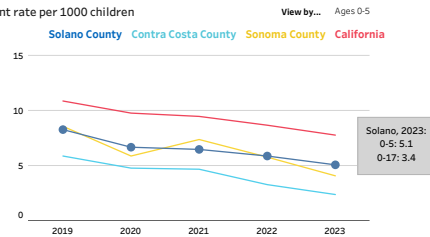
In 2022, unemployment rates decreased across the state and have now returned to pre-pandemic rates.



## Child Maltreatment

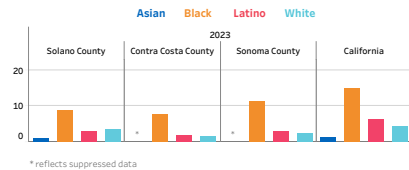
### Substantiated child maltreatment rate per 1000 children

The substantiated maltreatment rate among young children declined in Solano County between 2022 and 2023. The rate in Solano County is now higher than in surrounding counties but lower than in the state overall.



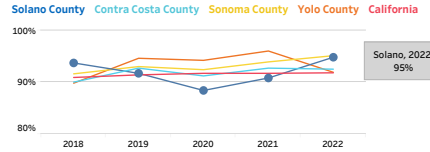
### Substantiated child maltreatment rate per 1000 children under 18, by race/ethnicity

The substantiated maltreatment rate remains highest among Black children across all counties. This disparity is partly due to Black families being under-resourced relative to families of other races/ethnicities.



### Children under 18 without recurrence of substantiated maltreatment within 12 months

The percent of children without maltreatment recurrence in Solano County increased by four percentage points between 2021 and 2022. The rate remains similar to the rate in Sonoma County but is higher than in other surrounding counties and the state overall.

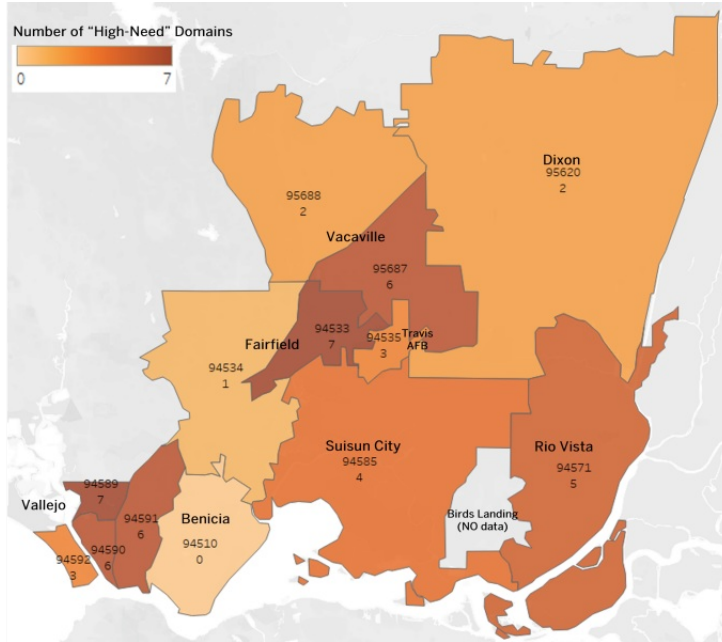




The map and table on this page illustrate geographic disparities in child and family well-being in Solano County and are based on data for nine indicators of health, education, and economic well-being.

## Disparities in Child and Family Well-Being

Disparities in Child and Family Well-Being in Solano, by Zip Code



\*Refers to the number of child and family well-being indicators for which outcome data in the Zip Code are worse than the county median. Indicators include: maltreatment allegation, foster care entry, child poverty, unemployment, educational attainment, math and reading proficiency, preschool enrollment, and child health insurance.

Indicators of Child and Family Well-Being in Solano, by Zip Code

Zip Code	City	% of children 0-5 <sup>1</sup>	# of children 0-5 <sup>1</sup>	Subs. child maltreat. allegation rate 0-5 <sup>2</sup>	Foster care entry rate 0-17 <sup>2</sup>	% of children under 5 in poverty <sup>1</sup>	Civilian unemployment rate <sup>1</sup>	% of adults with BA+ <sup>1</sup>	% of 3rd graders proficient in math <sup>3</sup>	% of 3rd graders proficient in read. <sup>3</sup>	% of 3 to 4-yr-olds in school <sup>1</sup>	% of children 0-5 w/ insurance <sup>1</sup>	# of needs	Change in needs since 2017
<b>Solano Median Rate</b>				4.1	0.4	10%	6%	31%	36%	38%	37%	98%	--	
<b>State Rate</b>				8.8	2.4	16%	6%	36%	45%	43%	45%	98%	--	
94533	Fairfield	20%	6,148	6.3*	1.9*	17%*	6%*	21%*	36%	38%	35%*	97%*	7	↑
94589	Vallejo	7%	2,065	2.4	0.3	11%*	6%*	23%*	25%*	24%*	34%*	95%*	7	↔
94590	Vallejo	7%	2,196	4.1	2.5*	28%*	6%	24%*	25%*	24%*	37%	97%*	6	↓
94591	Vallejo	12%	3,525	2.6	0.3	11%*	8%*	31%	25%*	24%*	37%*	95%*	6	↑
95687	Vacaville	15%	4,591	4.6*	1.2*	11%*	6%	23%*	44%	45%	31%*	97%*	6	↑
94571	Rio Vista	1%	233	0.0	2.7*	37%*	13%*	37%	32%*	38%	12%*	100%	5	↔
94585	Suisun City	6%	1,869	7.5*	1.7*	10%	7%*	20%*	36%	38%	42%	100%	4	↑
94535	Travis AFB	3%	805	7.5*	0.0	8%	9%*	39%	43%	43%	10%*	99%	3	↑
94592	Vallejo	<1%	47	21.3*	0.0	0%	5%	40%	25%*	24%*	--	100%	3	↓
95620	Dixon	5%	1,604	3.7	0.4	5%	3%	23%*	44%	34%*	47%	99%	2	↓
95688	Vacaville	10%	2,959	6.4*	1.6*	8%	4%	33%	44%	45%	38%	98%	2	↓
94534	Fairfield	10%	3,079	0.6	0.1	9%	4%	40%	36%	38%	49%	98%*	1	↑
94510	Benicia	5%	1,475	3.4	0.4	3%	4%	46%	60%	54%	70%	100%	0	↔

\*Worse than median value for County (figures may appear above median in one ZIP, but below in another, due to rounding).

--Valid preschool enrollment data unavailable for 94592.

Date prepared: April 2, 2024

Sources: 1 US Census, American Community Survey, 2018-2022 5-year estimates;

2 Solano Department of Child Welfare Services, 2023; UC Berkeley, California Child Welfare Indicators Project, 2022; American Community Survey, 2018-2022 5-year estimates. Rate per 1000 Children;

3 California Department of Education, California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress, 2023. Data for percentage of third graders proficient in math and reading reflect school year 2022-23.

**DATE:** April 12, 2024  
**TO:** First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission  
**FROM:** Kwiana Algere, Program Manager  
**SUBJ:** FY2024/25 Annual Grant Allocations of Funding

**Motion V: Consider approval of allocations of funding for up to \$52,140 for FY2024/25 Annual Grants in response to Request for Applications #2024-01 as follows:**

- a. **\$12,140 to Circle of Friends to provide Conscious Discipline teacher coaching, parent education, and family activities.**
- b. **\$20,000 to Make it Home to expand the reach of Make it Home services to families in Solano County with children ages 5 and under to ensure that families are safe, stable and self-sufficient through providing furniture.**
- c. **\$20,000 to Solano County Health Equity for African American/Black Lives to provide race equity trainings for healthcare professionals serving Black babies, mothers, and families.**

**Staff Report:** In FY2024/25, the Commission dedicated \$160,000 toward its seventh year of Annual Grants. These grants of up to \$20,000 were made available in Request for Applications (RFA) #2024-01 to meet a variety of community needs. In this cycle of funding, applicants were required to submit a Letter of Intent and attend a 30-minute mandatory grant development session facilitated by First 5 Solano staff. First 5 Solano received 22 Letters of Intent and 21 proposers attended a grant development session. In total, 12 applications were submitted in response to the RFA. Of those applications, 8 met the minimum criteria to be considered for funding.

A review panel consisting of representatives from First 5 Solano and other experts in the area of early childhood, read and assigned preliminary scores to the 8 applications. The review panel subsequently met to finalize their scores and rankings, with the top 3 proposals presented to the Commission for funding.

**FY2024/25 Annual Grant Recommended Awards of Funding**

	<b>Agency</b>	<b>Program Description</b>	<b>Recm'd</b>	<b>Strategic Plan Priority</b>	<b>Geographic Location</b>
1	Circle of Friends Child Development Center	To provide Conscious Discipline teacher coaching, parent education, and family activities.	\$12,140	Early Childhood Learning and Development	Fairfield
2	Make it Home	To expand the reach of Make it Home services and to families in Solano County with children ages 5 and under to ensure that these	\$20,000	Family Support and Education	Countywide



		families are safe, stable and self-sufficient through providing furniture.			
3	Solano County Health Equity for African American/Black Lives	To provide race equity trainings for healthcare professionals serving Black babies, mothers, and families.	\$20,000	Systems Change	Vallejo
	<b>Totals:</b>		<b>\$52,140</b>		

***Note: All awardees will be notified that the award of funds by the Commission does not constitute approval to move forward with services. Contracts for services must be successfully negotiated and executed before work can begin. Furthermore, no funds may be expended prior to the execution of contracts approved by County Counsel and the Executive Director/County Administrator, as appropriate.***

**DATE:** April 12, 2024

**TO:** First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission

**FROM:** Michele Harris, Executive Director

**SUBJ:** **Executive Director's Report for April 17, 2024**

### **Equity Initiative**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> of 3 Equity Trainings was held April 9 for local leadership. The session was again well attended, with over 20 local leaders from a variety of organizations coming together to discuss Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.

Pati Navalta led the workshop by engaging the group with, "What song makes you feel pure joy?", opening each participant up to share a special memory/feeling that they have for music. The group participated in distinguishing between diversity and inclusion, watched a video titled "Brown Eyes, Blue Eyes", practiced shifting language and had several breakout sessions to discuss continuing/practicing the skills that Pati continues to provide.

**First 5 California Summit:** In March 2024, First 5 Solano staff attended the annual First 5 California Child Health, Education, and Care Summit. The theme of the 3-day, statewide conference was "Stronger Starts: 25 Years of First 5", where attendees focused on sharing collective knowledge around new and improved systems-change frameworks and initiatives focused on First 5 California's North Star and Audacious Goal.

Additional highlights of the summit also included a keynote address by Glen Henry, CEO of Beleaf in Fatherhood (introduced by First 5 California Commissioner, Amy Fabi). First 5 Solano was also featured in two summit workshops:

1. **Legislative and Policy Springboard Strategies: How to cultivate the relationships necessary for success**, presented by Michele Harris, First 5 Solano Executive Director in partnership with Erin Hannigan, Board of Supervisor Member and Commissioner, with ASR, the Commission's evaluation consultant leading the session.
2. **Results Based Accountability in Action: How Three First 5's are Driving Program and System Change**, led by ASR, as a way to highlight how RBA is being used from a county just starting RBA, to a county who has used it for several years, to a county who has been using it for quite a while.

The summit concluded with a keynote address by Clarissa Doutherd, Executive Director of Parent Voices Oakland, known for her work to bring together community based organizations, parents, and service providers to advance innovative strategies for County-wide systems of change and elevate parent leadership in public policy.

## Community Engagement

**Developmental Disabilities and Neurodiversity Conference 2024:** The 2024 Developmental Disabilities and Neurodiversity Conference, sponsored by First 5 Solano, was attended by Deputy Director Denise Winters and Health Education Specialist Alicia Gutierrez from First 5 Solano. Scheduled for April 5th and 6th at the Joseph Nelson Community Center in Suisun City, this conference presented a valuable opportunity for First 5 Solano to stay informed about the latest advancements and best practices in the field. It serves as a platform to connect with experts, gain insights, and forge partnerships. Additionally, First 5 Solano will be participating in the resource fair to provide information, resources, and engage with community.

**2024 Family Fun Fest:** Health Education Specialist, Alicia Gutierrez is expected to table at the 2024 Family Fun Fest on April 10<sup>th</sup> at the Military & Family Readiness Center at Travis Airforce Base (AFB) in Fairfield. This event marks the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Family Fun Fest which will highlight April as Autism Awareness Month, Child Abuse Prevention Month and the Month of the Military Child, among other recognitions. During the event, First 5 Solano will have an opportunity to connect with the military community and other agencies to provide resources, support and community engagement materials.

**Vacaville Unified School District Extravaganza Event:** The Vacaville Unified School District (VUSD) is holding a public event on April 13<sup>th</sup> at the Shelly Dally Early Learning Village to showcase the many Early Education options that are available for families in Vacaville. In addition to providing information about preschool, transitional kindergarten and kindergarten programs, the event will also offer on-site enrollment assistance, family activities and community resources. Health Education Specialist, Alicia Gutierrez is expected to host a community partner table to engage with families and provide First 5 Solano materials and resources.

**Community Responsive Mini Grants:** On April 8th, 2024, the first application period for all four types of mini grants (Community Engagement Event, Professional Development Opportunity, Equipment and Materials, and Time-Limited Program) will be open, with a total of \$30,000 available for events or activities taking place between July 1, 2024 and June 30, 2025. Applications are due April 29, 2024. The second application period will be released in October for event(s) or activities in January 1, 2025 - June 2025. The application will be made available through an electronic google form to provide easy access for community partners on the First 5 Solano website.

**2024 Solano County Fair:** First 5 Solano staff and grantees are meeting to plan the First 5 Family Zone at the Solano County Fair which will take place June 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> from 12 pm-6 pm. The fair has given First 5 Solano the opportunity to utilize a full lawn space for activities that will engage children ages 0-5 and their families. The theme for this year's event will be "Community", which will feature butterflies, honeybees and flowers from the 2024 First 5 Solano Calendar. The Family Zone will feature activities centered around literacy, family enjoyment, health and wellness. Collaborating with community partners, a range of resources and interactive activities will be available for families throughout the two-day event.

**2024 Vallejo Juneteenth Celebration:** On Saturday, June 15, 2024, the staff of First 5 Solano, including Kwiana Algere and Toya Adams, will actively participate in the 34th Annual Juneteenth Festival and Parade in Vallejo from 11am to 5pm. First 5 Solano is proud to support this event as a community partner, offering resources and First 5 Solano swag for children and families. Juneteenth, observed on June 19th, commemorates the emancipation of enslaved people in the US. As part of Vallejo's Juneteenth celebration, the festival will prioritize Community Health and Wellness, featuring a diverse array of food, activities, and resources for the community.