



The First 5 Yolo Children and Families Commission met on the 13th day of March 2024 at International House, 10 College Park, Davis, CA 95616.

Commissioners in Attendance:

Sally Brown, Anna Domek, Heidi Kellison, Nichole Arnold, Karleen Jakowski, Jim Provenza

Commissioners in Attendance via Zoom:

Garth Lewis

Absent: none

Staff in Attendance:

Gina Daleiden, Victoria Zimmerle, Melina Ortigas

Public in Attendance: none

ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA

Item #1: Call to Order

Vice Chair called the meeting to order at **3:05 pm**.

Item #2: Roll Call

N. Arnold took a voice roll call.

Absent: none

Late: Lucas Frerichs, Melissa Roberts, Garth Lewis

Item #3: Consider Approval of the Agenda

N. Arnold proposed removing Item #7 from the Consent Agenda to the next meeting to allow needed updates and moving Item #8 after Item #12 to allow additional time for Commissioners to arrive.

Approve the agenda with removal of Item 7 and consideration of Item 8 after Item 12.

Motion: H. Kellison **Second:** J. Provenza

Motion carried unanimously.

Item #4: Opportunity for Commissioners to state Conflict and Recusal

None.

Item #5: Public Comment

None.

Item #6: Approve First 5 Yolo Commission Meeting Minutes from 1/10/2024

Approve consent agenda item 6.



Motion: J. Rexroad **Second:** S. Brown

Motion carried unanimously.

Item #9: Public Hearing: Accept the First 5 California Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2022-2023

G. Daleiden noted that the Commission considers acceptance of the First 5 California Annual Report each year upon its publication, per First 5 Statute. Annually, all First 5 County Commissions submit data to the state which is used by First 5 California to produce its Annual Report. Data collected by the State differs slightly from data collected and reported locally in First 5 Yolo's Local Evaluation Report.

In considering acceptance of the Report staff collect any public comment and comments from Commissions to be provided to First 5 California.

H. Kellison shared ongoing concerns that the Annual Report does not address declining Tobacco Tax revenues and its impact on the First 5 system. She requested that the following comment be submitted to First 5 California: "I value the chance to review First 5 California's Annual Report and stay updated on the progress of First 5 efforts statewide, especially considering the ongoing decline in Proposition 10 revenue, which is exacerbated by the implementation of the statewide ban on flavored tobacco products under Proposition 31. As First 5 Yolo works to maximize our resources by continuing to shift our focus toward leveraging non-Proposition 10 funding to meaningfully support First 5 California's policy priorities, I would like to emphasize the importance of advocacy and urge First 5 California to address the growing funding shortfalls."

Public Hearing opened at 3:10pm.

No public comment.

Public Hearing closed at 3:12pm.

Commissioners discussed and asked questions regarding the Annual Report, process for approval, and the shared concerns with the lack of information regarding Tobacco Tax revenue decline and sustainability efforts highlighted in H. Kellison's comment. Commissioners additionally discussed a desired recommendation to First 5 California to include a section in future reports that acknowledges revenue decline and sustainability efforts to support future efforts statewide.

M. Roberts arrived at 3:11pm.

G. Lewis arrived at 3:18pm.

Accept the First 5 California Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 and urge that a section be added to future reports addressing the shortfall in funding due to the ongoing decline of Tobacco tax revenue as reflected in the following statement: "We value the chance to review First 5 California's Annual Report and stay updated on the progress of First 5 efforts statewide, especially considering the ongoing decline in Proposition 10 revenue, which is exacerbated by the implementation of the statewide ban on flavored tobacco products under Proposition 31. As First 5 Yolo works to maximize our resources by continuing to shift our focus toward leveraging non-Proposition 10 funding to



meaningfully support First 5 California’s policy priorities, we would like to emphasize the importance of advocacy and urge First 5 California to address the growing funding shortfalls.”

Motion: M. Roberts **Second:** J. Rexroad

Motion carried unanimously.

Item #10: Receive Childcare Recovery Package End-of-Program Summary

G. Daleiden shared that the QCC Program Officer, Fawn Montagna, had a family emergency and was unable to attend the meeting. V. Zimmerle, who supervised this effort, will report on her behalf. G. Daleiden also noted that the Childcare Recovery Package was funded through one-time County of Yolo American Rescue Plan Act funds to respond to the significant and negative impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the Childcare Sector as a whole.

V. Zimmerle presented a brief overview of the Childcare Recovery Package which included Infrastructure Grants, Recovery Grants and two sub-awards to address identified needs in childcare deserts. Infrastructure grants were available to all licensed, non-public childcare providers as well as license-exempt childcare providers and those seeking to enter the sector by obtaining a first license. Funds were awarded to support childcare providers in opening a new license, expanding an existing license, returning to active status, or to enhance care settings to sustain enrollment or return to full enrollment. Recovery Grants were available to all licensed, non-public childcare providers who were open in December 2020 and remained open. Allowable uses of funds for Recovery Grants were very flexible to support general pandemic recovery in recognition of the deleterious impact of the pandemic on the Childcare Sector including rising operational costs due to inflation, increase PPE and cleaning supplies, etc.

The goal of the Childcare Recovery Package was sustaining existing childcare capacity and increasing capacity in Yolo County while ensuring childcare could be cared for safely. The following outcomes were highlighted:

- 159 grants were awarded: 115 Infrastructure and 44 Recovery
- Childcare providers from across the County applied for and received funding with the largest number of grants awarded to childcare providers from West Sacramento and childcare providers operating Family Childcare Homes.
 - First 5 Yolo’s grant process was designed to simplify the application process and make it accessible to childcare providers who may not easily access other grants. Materials were reviewed for ease of application, and materials were translated into multiple languages. Technical Assistance was also offered to support childcare providers in applying for grants through a contract with Yolo County Children’s Alliance.
- 90 additional children can now be served in Yolo County with additional childcare capacity expected as more providers complete the licensing and expansion process.
- 7 grantees successfully obtained or expanded their license and 20 were actively continuing in the process as of the 6-month follow up survey.



Implementation of the Childcare Recovery Package highlighted the tremendous need that still exists within the sector. Childcare providers continue to experience delays at the state level as well as language and technological barriers. Additionally, increased costs and delays with construction resulted in further delays for providers. While the Childcare Recovery Package project has ended, First 5 Yolo continues to support childcare providers in navigating the highly-complex state system and process as part of its QCC/IMPACT Legacy work.

Commissioners discussed and asked questions about ongoing needs across the sector, potential challenges with sustaining positive impacts since one-time funding has sunset, and available ongoing supports.

Commissioners thanked staff and funded partners for their efforts in implementing this ARP funding, the agency's response to Childcare provider need during the COVID-19 pandemic and noted that responding to County childcare needs was a large priority of the Board of Supervisors.

L. Frerichs arrived at 3:50pm.

Item #11: Receive Fiscal Half Year 1 2023-2024 Program Performance Measure Reports

G. Daleiden noted that all funded partners are making satisfactory progress and have been approved for reimbursements for Quarter 2.

V. Zimmerle shared a brief overview of First 5 Yolo's IMPACT Legacy program highlighting that for Fiscal Year 2023-2024, program offerings have been aligned across funded partners and offerings include communities of practice focused on a variety of topics relevant to and requested by childcare providers, drop-in office hours available to all childcare providers, regular communications and information sharing about professional development opportunities, resources, and opportunities to connect with other childcare providers. V. Zimmerle also highlighted that a total of 368 childcare providers currently participate in IMPACT Legacy with 52 childcare providers participating in direct quality improvement supports including 9 Family, Friend, Neighbor providers who are actively pursuing their first license. Additional measures will be reported at the close of the fiscal year as IMPACT Legacy implementation was delayed approximately 3 months due to delays in the contracting process with the state.

M. Ortigas provided a brief overview of Help Me Grow Yolo, First 5 Yolo's universal early childhood mental health access and linkage program serving children birth-5years. Increasingly, Help Me Grow is integrated with First 5 Yolo programs including The CHILD Project: Road to Resilience (inclusive of Welcome Baby), IMPACT Legacy, and Crisis Nursery Mobile Client Navigator. Additionally, Help Me Grow continues to increase and strengthen its relationships with other child serving providers and systems as it functions as a system-linker for families. M. Ortigas noted the following highlights:

- 57% of children identified as at-risk for development or mental health concern were connected to an early intervention service within 60 days. Across the County, long waitlist and provider shortages continue to be a challenge in connecting children to services. Help Me Grow services help families navigate, follow up, and identify viable service options supporting this outcome. When looking at State data, only 3% of children eligible for early intervention services, ages 0-3, receive services in California.



- Developmental screens using validated tools were up by ~300 screens in Fiscal Half Year 1 with 927 screens completed.
- Unique to Yolo County, Help Me Grow's In-home Therapy for Caregivers is an addition to Help Me Grow service offerings and provides in-home therapy for caregivers with access barriers to receiving therapy treatment. In fiscal half year 1, 28 caregivers were connected to therapy with 94% reporting reduced depression score and improved functioning in daily activities.
- Help Me Grow is regularly evaluating offerings to ensure they meet the needs of the community and to strengthen care coordination capacity with a network of service providers including Child Welfare Services. The program is currently piloting father groups to support fathers in parenting and has increased outreach in West Sacramento through a partnership with Head Start. The Program continues to offer developmental playgroups covering a variety of topics.
- HMG is connected to nearly all systems in the County which allows for more seamless support of families, caregivers, and providers of all types.

M. Ortigas also provided a performance measure summary for The CHILD Project: Road to Resilience (R2R), First 5 Yolo's care coordination and home visiting initiative. Direct service partners included lead direct service partner, CommuniCare+OLE and Yolo County Children's Alliance. Staff from CommuniCare+OLE's Behavioral Health and Perinatal department as well as YCCA's Healthy Families America staff work together as a team providing navigation and home visiting services. Highlights include:

- 9.6% of caregivers have a language other than English which is largely attributed to the addition of Welcome Baby and its outreach and health literacy efforts. The program is also seeing a more geographically diverse reach in services again, supported by Welcome Baby.
- Participants remain in services for an average of 11 months and 16 visits per family which speaks to the relationship Home Visitors are able to build and maintain with the families they serve.
- 95% of children are current on well child visits and 90% are current on immunizations
- 100% of parents/primary caregivers improved in their parenting skills.
- 96% of parents/primary caregivers reduced or abstained from substance use.
- 100% of all families avoided the need for entry into Child Welfare Services. This information is verified with Yolo County Child welfare Services for those who consent.

Commissioners discussed and asked questions noting the positive outcomes across programs.

Item #12: Accept Quarter 2 Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Revenue and Expenditure Summary Report

V. Zimmerle noted that the Quarter 2 report includes a proposed budget revision to reflect the Davis City Councils recent vote to renew First 5 Yolo's Agreement with the City for Cannabis Community Benefit funds to support The CHILD Project: Road to Resilience in FY2023-24 and Welcome Baby: Road to Resilience in the following years.

Accept Quarter 2 Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Revenue and Expenditure Summary Report

Motion: J. Rexroad **Second:** H Kellison

Motion carried unanimously.



Item #8: Elect First 5 Yolo Commission Officers

L. Frerichs noted that election of officers is an annual process. The current Vice Chair is N. Arnold and the current Treasurer is S. Brown. Both N. Arnold and S. Brown are open to continuing in their positions.

Renew N. Arnold as Vice Chair and S. Brown as Treasurer of the First 5 Yolo Commission

Motion: H. Kellison **Second:** J. Rexroad

Motion carried unanimously.

Item #13: Receive Update on Enrollment with Partnership Health Managed Care Plan

G. Daleiden shared that First 5 Yolo is continuing its process of enrollment with Partnership Health Plan and anticipates something back soon as PHP reviews minor proposed contract changes as requested from County Counsel. No issues are expected with the proposed changes and First 5 Yolo anticipates being able to sign the agreement with PHP which will allow the agency to begin billing for Community Health Worker services as a cost off-setting measure.

Item #14: Executive Director Report

G. Daleiden provided the following updates:

1. Program Supervisor, Alanna Jonsson, who supervises the CalWORKs Home Visiting Program is moving to the next step on their salary scale after a positive performance review.
2. G. Daleiden received formal notification that First 5 Yolo has been selected to receive the next round of Office of Child Abuse Prevention Road to Resilience funding. The application included wrapping Welcome Baby more formally under Road to Resilience and with this award notice, along with Yolo County Cannabis Tax and other funding sources, as secure sustainability for both programs for the next 3 years. G. Daleiden thanked Garth Lewis and Yolo County Office of Education for their support in identifying funds to support R2R for FY23/24 which will support a sharper focus on connection to schools through this fiscal year.
3. F5CA identified a legislative champion for First 5's statewide budget ask as well as someone to champion the Brith Beginnings act which seeks to establish a prenatal-3 group at the State level to look the funding landscape across that age group. This group would be multi-agency and include First 5.
4. G. Daleiden will be presenting at the First 5 CA summit in Oakland on March 27th around First 5 Yolo's work with Partnership Health Plan. G. Daleiden will present on a panel including a Partnership Help Plan Representative, First 5 Association staff, and colleagues from First 5 Monterey.
5. F5Y delivered a professional development training on the Effective Black Parenting Program and invited M. Ortigas to provide a brief update. M. Ortigas shared that Welcome Baby and Road to Resilience staff including home visitors, nurses, program managers, supervisors, and medical partners participated in the training. The trainer was highly impactful and well received by all, with the trainer providing real stories, practical tips, insight into how the history of Black families impacts parenting today, and strategies for working with Black families. Participants reported that training was highly impactful, supportive, and eye-opening and through the training staff



feel more prepared to support, not just black families, but families of all cultures. The R2R program manager also reported that this training was the best parenting training she had ever attended.

Item #15: Commissioner Reports

K. Jakowski shared that current and future state of MHSA funding is quite precarious and may be exacerbated by Proposition 1. Yolo County's MHSA budget is based on state level projections and revenue is directly related to tax payments that are made to the state. Last year, CA residents had an option to defer tax payments because of the storms which severely impacted revenues and meant that Yolo County had to spend down reserves to meet budgeted obligations. This year's revenues are also much lower than projected, which presents challenges as funds have already been committed. If Proposition 1 passes, the Prevention/Early Intervention funds (PEI), specifically individual prevention, will be most negatively impacted. First 5 Yolo's Help Me Grow is funded by PEI and in many pieces of the program are considered an individual level prevention service. Prop 1 proposes that a large portion of prevention funding is retained at the State level to be administered by CDPH. K. Jakowski will continue to work closely with G. Daleiden, County Board of Supervisors and partners to monitor the situation and remain proactive as much work lies ahead.

L. Frerichs shared that the Board of Supervisors recently completed two days of budget workshops to plan for the coming fiscal year and is also facing budgetary challenges. He noted that other local jurisdictions are experiencing the same. He also shared that historically local jurisdictions trail the State by 1-2 years related to budget surpluses and deficits, and while there will be challenges in the year ahead, greater challenges are expected in the next 2-3 years as revenues decline and mandates increase.

Item #16: Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 4:55pm.

Next Commission Meeting scheduled:

May 15, 2024
International House
10 College Park, Davis, CA 95616