



The First 5 Yolo Children and Families Commission met on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2021

**NOTE:** This meeting was held via teleconference, pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20 (March 17, 2020), available at the following [link](#).

**Commissioners in Attendance:**

Jim Provenza, Karleen Jakowski, Heidy Kellison, Jennifer Rexroad, Garth Lewis, Nichole Arnold, Dawnté Early, Sally Brown, Melissa Roberts

**Staff in Attendance:**

Gina Daleiden, Melina Ortigas, Victoria Zimmerle, Ruth Galligan

**Public in Attendance:**

Justine Jimenez, Marianne Estes

Item #1: Call to order

Chair Provenza called the meeting to order at 3:04pm and welcomed the new commissioner for District 1 and invited her to introduce herself.

Dr. Dawnté Early stated she is excited to join the First 5 Yolo Children and Families Commission. She is a proud Aggie with a PhD in Human Development, a minor in Quantitative Psychology, and a Master's in Child Development (all from UC Davis). She is a West Sacramento resident since 2007 and previously lived in Davis. She is currently Chief of Research and Evaluation for the State's Mental Health Oversight and Accountability Commission established under proposition 63. Her work focuses on data targeted at children's mental health and school mental health. She is very excited to bring all her knowledge and experience to benefit the children and families of Yolo County.

G. Daleiden introduced Ruth Galligan, the newest First 5 staff hire who has quickly acclimated and helped tremendously in the last two weeks with customer service and answering and responding to COVID inbox vetting of Family, Friend, and Neighbor childcare providers for COVID vaccine access.

R. Galligan shared that she recently moved from Oregon in November and is happy to join the First 5 Yolo team where she supports V. Zimmerle and G. Daleiden with various administrative projects and is looking forward to learning a lot on the team.

Item#2: Roll Call

V. Zimmerle took a voice roll call.

Absent: none.

Item #3: Approval of Agenda

**Approve Agenda**

**Motion:** G. Lewis      **Second:** N. Arnold

V. Zimmerle took a roll call vote.

H. Kellison Abstained.



Motion carries.

Item #4: State of Conflict and Recusal

H. Kellison is abstaining on all votes due to medical advice.

Item #5: Public Comment

None.

Item #6: Updates and Announcements from the Chair

The county received good news with the passage of the relief act from the President offering relief to families in the form of monthly checks and support to schools, as well as approximately 40 million dollars in one-time funds that can be used over three years for Yolo County. This is an opportunity to address the systemic inequities and devastating effects of COVID on young children and families. Jesse Salinas, from the Yolo County Assessor's Office, is considering a master plan for children that would work to leverage funds over three years and beyond. J. Provenza suggested having First 5 Yolo's insight on this will be important, given G. Daleiden's recent update to the Board of Supervisors alerting them of the decline in preventive visits (prenatal and child health) and the negative impact this will have on children and families down the road. J. Provenza suggested having all agencies and stakeholders working with families form a task force or committee to think about what is most pressing for families and children and respond appropriately.

J. Provenza expressed how impressed he was with First 5 Yolo's role in reaching the underserved and connecting childcare providers to the COVID-19 vaccine. There was a tremendous effort from First 5 Yolo and partners to link families to specialty clinics as quickly as possible.

Item #7: Approve First 5 Yolo Commission Meeting Minutes from [1/13/2021](#)

Item #8: Receive Emergency COVID-19 Relief Fund Allocations Report

***Approve Consent Agenda Items 7-8***

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

V. Zimmerle took a roll call vote.

H. Kellison abstained.

Motion carries.

Item #9. Election of First 5 Yolo Commission Officers

The Commissioners previously serving as Vice Chair and Treasurer concluded their current terms and agreed to continue serving in the same capacity. The Commission agreed to re-appoint S. Brown and H. Kellison to Treasurer and Vice Chair, respective.

**Appoint H. Kellison as Vice Chair and S. Brown as Treasurer of the First 5 Yolo Commission for another term.**

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



V. Zimmerle took a roll call vote.  
Dr. Early and H. Kellison abstained.  
Motion carries.

Item #10. Accept Quarter 2 Revenue and Expenditure Year-to-Date Report

V. Zimmerle noted the report reflects new and amended contract/grant amounts both on grants received and grants disbursed, primarily the new ACEs Aware Network of Care Grant and modified DLL Expansion budget. As a result of the changes to grant awards and funding, salaries and benefits were updated to reflect associated staffing changes.

The R2R increase is related to the allocation of emergency COVID Relief funds. The Commission expanded the First 5 Yolo COVID-19 resolution to include recovery efforts in January 2021. The allocation COVID Relief funds will be used to provide database support in the project.

Arnon Erba who was providing IT support to First 5 Yolo for about 5 years as a consultant will be leaving to complete his studies at UC Davis and focus on other employment opportunities. A. Erba was dedicated to the mission of First 5 Yolo and helped the agency tremendously by offering many services in-kind or far below market cost.

V. Zimmerle explained that First 5 Yolo released a Request for Qualifications For Managed IT Services and selected KAI Partners to be First 5 Yolo's new Managed IT Services provider. KAIP has robust experience working for similar government and non-profit agencies and meeting the data security standards of HIPAA and HITECH Act. While the costs for Managed IT Services are higher than those received from an independent consultant, KAI Partner will provide greater access for staff IT and Helpdesk support, as well as other services that will allow First 5 to adapt to changing technological and privacy needs.

H. Kellison would like to thank A. Erba for all his efforts and generous contributions to First 5 Yolo. H. Kellison agreed to lead organizing a more formal appreciation for A. Erba's work.

***Accept Quarter 2 Revenue and Expenditure Year-to-Date Summary Report***

**Motion:** Dr. Early      **Second:** J. Rexroad

V. Zimmerle took a roll call vote.  
H Kellison abstained.  
Motion carries.

Item# 11. Hold Public Hearing: Receive First 5 Yolo Annual Local Evaluation Report FY19/20

J. Provenza opened the public hearing at 3:26pm.

G. Daleiden clarified the local report is usually provided in January, however, due to the timeline for submitting the ACEs aware grant application, resources had to be shifted and thus the report is being presented in March. The local evaluation was the teamwork of several First 5 staff but G. Daleiden expressed a special thanks to M. Ortigas for leading the work with outside evaluator, LPC Consulting Associates, to produce a beautiful Local Evaluation Report. The Report does not reflect all the data local partners collect and analyze or provide; it is meant to be a summary that ranges across the investments



that First 5 Yolo has made.

Highlights include a continued increase in the service of the 0-2 population, in alignment with the Strategic Plan direction to fund earlier intervention services to maximize a critical developmental window, as well as a greater number of adults/caregivers and families served under expanded programming covering prenatal and multigenerational groups, showing a whole-child, whole-family approach to services.

G. Daleiden also expressed a deep appreciation for all the work that the direct service providers contributed. Without them, this work simply could not happen.

J. Provenza congratulated everyone on the successes of the past year noted in the Report as well as the Report itself. G. Daleiden noted the Report is shared with all members of the Board of Supervisors and is filed with First 5 California. J. Provenza advised reviewing the document with the Board members again at a future meeting, since the document does a good job of highlighting the successes of First 5 Yolo.

J. Provenza closed the public hearing at 3:31pm.

#### Item #12. Adopt First 5 Yolo Annual Local Evaluation Report FY19/20

Discussion on the First 5 Yolo Annual Local Evaluation Report FY19/20 was heard in the public hearing of the previous item.

#### ***Adopt the First 5 Yolo Annual Local Evaluation Report FY19/20***

**Motion:** J. Rexroad      **Second:** N. Arnold

V. Zimmerle took a roll call vote.

H. Kellison abstained.

Motion carries.

#### Item #13. Update on Childcare Worker COVID Vaccine and Vaccine Public Awareness Efforts

G. Daleiden highlighted First 5 Yolo's work coordinating COVID vaccine for childcare providers. First 5 Yolo has been working closely with Yolo County Health, F5Y staff, and early learning partners to fully focus on getting childcare providers into vaccine slots for a significant amount of time. Updates include the following:

- 500 slots dedicated to childcare workers at a special vaccine clinic at Yolo County Office of Education. G. Daleiden thanked G. Lewis for his advocacy at the Vaccine Advisory Council.
- 200 dedicated slots were filled for the current week at County Vaccine Clinics.
- 189 dedicated slots were also filled for County clinics and at CommuniCare Health Centers in the previous week.

Connecting providers to vaccines was a huge collective effort and one of the most rewarding initiatives that First 5 Yolo could be working on at this moment in history. G. Daleiden shared a video created by staff member, A. Jonsson, showing the uplifting experience of the vaccine event for childcare providers held over the weekend at YCOE.



G. Daleiden noted how proud she was of Yolo County for recognizing, not only licensed childcare providers, but also Family, Friend, and Neighbor providers who otherwise would not have been served. Special thanks were also extended to J. Jimenez from city of West Sacramento, Yolo County Office of Education, Northern CA Children's Therapy Center, and Children's Home Society among other partners, who helped tremendously with outreach and getting clients signed up for vaccine slots. Thanks to the COVID safety training that was funded through the CAREs Act, First 5 Yolo had a list of providers and families to reach at migrant camps and other places, which helped in connecting to families as quickly as possible.

All agencies have worked together over the past three weeks. Currently, First 5 Yolo is assisting the County to verify Family, Friend, and Neighbor provider status, which has been a bigger lift than anticipated, but having a process has been helpful. First 5 Yolo posted on social media and a [COVID@first5yolo.org](mailto:COVID@first5yolo.org) email was set up to support the county in responding to the vaccine efforts. First 5 Yolo and partners also called all providers without emails to help them register. The Health Officer and G. Daleiden signed a non-disclosure agreement so staff could call those individuals.

J. Rexroad commended K. Jakowski and First 5 Yolo for allowing resource parents to participate in the vaccine clinics as they had been left out of the State's plan. There have been several resource parents that have died from COVID-19 after taking in children from the foster system. Resource families take in children without having the children quarantined, endangering resource families who are not vaccinated. While the county waited for state direction, K. Jakowski was able to get the direction so resource families could also get vaccinated.

K. Jakowski added that J. Rexroad has been advocating at state level, which helped K. Jakowski and Dr. Sisson in local efforts to support resource families. The letter Yolo county used has been discussed at length at the state level and is now being used as a template in other counties to get their resource families vaccinated, creating a ripple effect across the state.

S. Brown noted the dedicated childcare provider vaccine clinic was the 18<sup>th</sup> vaccine clinic for which she has volunteered and the clinic at YCOE ran extraordinarily smoothly.

Dr.r. EarlyDr. commented that it was amazing to acknowledge educators as essential and support those who have been forgotten, even though parents like her have been relying on these individuals to get them through the pandemic.

N. Arnold shared that had she appreciated handing out the supplies First 5 Yolo contributed to the YCOE Vaccine Clinic, and that it was nice to see everyone in good spirits.

J. Provenza added this event did not happen by accident. It was not a foregone conclusion that childcare providers would get this support. There was advocacy by First 5 Yolo and Yolo County Office of Education (YCOE) and demonstrating to the County that First 5 Yolo was able to help them on multiple occasions. Throughout the pandemic, First 5 Yolo and YCOE stepped up to help the County through supplies distribution, financial relief, and more recently, with the vaccine clinics. First 5 Yolo and YCOE were able to act quickly to support the County and community.

G. Lewis also thanked G. Daleiden for her leadership, and energy, and coordination. YCOE has gained



expertise as a central point of distribution. The California Department of Education (CDE) wants to use YCOE as a distribution center for all PPE outside of Education, thanks to all the practice they have gotten with the pandemic relief efforts.

G. Daleiden noted the eligibility on the vaccines can change in the state very frequently, and eligibility in the childcare provider category has been very challenging. G. Daleiden worked with the Health Officer to better detail the eligibility criteria for childcare providers.

J. Provenza added that the County Board of Supervisors has written to the State to request permission for Yolo County to continue to offer specialty clinics and open slots, considering Yolo County is doing better than other counties with vaccination efforts. If the county is in substantial compliance with MyTurn, then Yolo county should be able to continue with the specialty clinics.

#### Item # 14. Receive Program Updates and Verification of Funded Partner Reporting

M. Ortigas discussed updates regarding Help Me Grow (HMG) and Maternal Mental Health:

Developmental screening rates dropped due to COVID-19 challenges however, HMG provided more training and development in the first half year than what was done in the entirety of the previous fiscal year. The health system referrals into HMG are lower, but have begun to show some increases due to the increased work with home visiting partners and partnership with Maternal Mental Health In-home Therapy for Moms, a component of the HMG program. There are communication efforts under way locally, statewide, and nationally, to better convey how HMG works more concretely, including a survey for health care providers done in collaboration with UC Davis MIND Institute to increase the number of referrals from the health system into HMG. The community and health care providers need more concrete information on how HMG works and that it has a centralized access point specifically designed to reduce fragmented services for children in the county.

G. Daleiden highlighted the partnership with the new medical provider advisory council that alerted First 5 Yolo about the significant drop-in prenatal care visits. The CHILD Project: Road to Resilience (R2R) Project Manager was able to support First 5 by providing updated data on timeliness to care metrics, which helped highlight the gap in prevention efforts for children and pregnant women due to resources and attention shifting away from them for COVID-19 response. Families are experiencing inordinate stressors sometimes, making dangerous tradeoffs (e.g., between food and healthcare), that may negatively impact the development of babies and young children. M. Ortigas noted HMG is working on a Public Service Announcement to connect the dots for the community and bridge the prenatal to 5 systems of care. HMG can leverage their centralized access point to help identify barriers to care and support linking families to preventive healthcare services along with R2R and other home visiting services.

J. Rexroad suggested expanding the developmental playgroups as a key strategy for recovery efforts to support families with learning, socialization, and mental health needs. Many families have lost income and the opportunity to pay for preschool or educational activities.

J. Provenza noted the federal relief will include monthly checks to families, which is expected to support in lifting 50% of children out of poverty, but, agreed that the county funding needs to look at how to provide the interventions that children will need most to recover from the negative effects of the



pandemic.

D.. Early noted she is looking forward to seeing how HMG can grow their health care provider referrals and further highlight how children should have universal, early, periodic screening, diagnosis, and treatment.

#### Item #15. Executive Director Report

G. Daleiden briefed The Commission on the following:

1. The First 5 Association is reviewing how First 5s will work more closely with managed health care plans since both already share many common public health goals. This will be particularly important for programs like home visiting where well-child visits, immunizations, and prenatal care metrics are collected. Solano, Yolo, and Sonoma have been discussing a partnership like this for some time, therefore it is exciting to see the Association supporting moving this work forward at a state level for all counties.
2. G. Daleiden is part of the First 5 Executive Committee and noted the strategic plan underway for First 5 Association is sharply focused on sustainability.
3. The ACE Aware Network of Care grant is now going through contract set-up and initial partner meetings. This grant will help HMG expand their partnership with medical providers. UC Davis is facilitator and lead on the project. Yolo grantees will also be working closely with Sonoma grantees who also received an ACEs implementation grant.

J. Provenza noted Patrick Blacklock will be leaving his position as Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) and the Board of Supervisors has appointed Daniel Kim as acting CAO. It will be important for G. Daleiden to let him know First 5 Yolo is a *county* agency. It will also be good to discuss an approach to funding as well as First 5 Yolo's role in identifying the funding needs for broader systems change rather than individual program funding. K. Jakowski noted the new CAO has robust experience in Health and Human Services, which will be an asset to the county.

#### Item #16. Commissioner Reports

K. Jakowski noted Yolo county is participating in a new program under the Adult and Aging Branch as a system of care collaborative partner under a 24-month project where they will review, analyze, and support improvements in substance use disorder, ecosystem, and treatment. This has a strong connection to the work on Road to Resilience. The project coordinator is looking to engage First 5 Yolo as a partner if interested and if time permits.

#### Item 19. Adjournment

J. Provenza adjourned the regular meeting to closed session at 4:30pm and noted there will be no report out of Closed Session.

Next Commission Meeting scheduled:

May 12, 2021 via Zoom