

The First 5 Yolo Children and Families Commission met on the 12th day of May, 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, Heidi Kellison, Jennifer Rexroad*, Garth Lewis, Nichole Arnold, Dr. Dawnté Early, Sally Brown

Dr. Early left at 3:15pm and returned at 4:00pm.

Staff in Attendance:

Gina Daleiden, Melina Ortigas, Victoria Zimmerle, Fawn Montagna

Public in Attendance:

Justine Jimenez, Tico Zendejas, Jeneba Lahai, Esthela Chavez, Nancy Ledesma, Jovanna Vialdores

Item #1: Call to order

Chair Provenza called the meeting to order at **3:03pm**

Item#2: Roll Call

V. Zimmerle took a voice roll call.

Absent: Melissa Roberts

*J. Rexroad arrived at 3:08pm

Item #3: Approval of Agenda

J. Provenza pulled the March 10, 2021 minutes from the Consent Agenda, noting that the minutes will be brought to the next Commission meeting in June.

Approve Agenda except the minutes from March 10th (item 7)

Motion: Dr. Early **Second:** S. Brown

V. Zimmerle took a roll call vote.

Motion carries unanimously.

Item #4: State of Conflict and Recusal

None.

Item #5: Public Comment

J. Vialdores is visiting from First 5 San Joaquin.

Item #6: Updates and Announcements from the Chair

Chair Provenza noted Fiscal staff of the Board of Supervisors is reviewing the new requirements from the Federal government for the American Rescue Plan Act and further restrictions to the use of those funds.

Item #7: Approve First 5 Yolo Commission Meeting Minutes from [3/10/2021](#)

Item #8: Accept Report on Q3 Funded Partner Progress

Approve Consent Agenda Item 8 and move item 7 (March 10th Meeting Minutes) to the next Commission meeting in June.

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

V. Zimmerle took a roll call vote.

Motion carries unanimously.

Item #9. Receive Partner Presentation on IMPACT 2020 Family, Friend, and Neighbor Provider Efforts

F. Montagna introduced funded partner agencies, RISE Inc., and Yolo County Children’s Alliance who presented on their impressive progress made-to-date since the launch of the IMPACT 2020 grant, which included sharing pictures and videos from providers in the program. To date, approximately 80 Family, Friend, and Neighbor license-exempt Providers have received coaching under IMPACT 2020.

Highlights included:

- Despite the numerous challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, partners found creative ways to keep providers engaged throughout the sessions.
- Staff customized their approach to meet the FFN’s (Family, Friend, and Neighbor childcare providers) needs and provided additional 1:1 support to providers individually, which was key to keeping providers enrolled and engaged.
- First 5 supplies have been helpful to FFNs. Providers are appreciative of the tangible support like socks, diapers, wipes, blankets, and supplies/incentives to create more engaging play spaces. This support also helped the FFNs save money to operate their program and to sustain them through financial hardships.
- FFNs had a need for the connection and trusting relationships that were established with the coaches. The program helped them cope with the isolation of the pandemic.
- A Farsi class is currently under development through a collaboration between Yolo County Children’s Alliance and Washington Joint Unified School District.
- FFN providers are setting goals, learning about child development, and sharing in the delight with the children over developmental milestones reached.

Both RISE Inc., and Yolo County Children’s Alliance provided notable service during the COVID Pandemic and supported with COVID safety trainings covered through CARES Act funding. Thanks to the safety training and IMPACT 2020 model, First 5 Yolo and partners were able to reach families that were unknown previously and were able to connect them to resources, including vaccines.

H. Kellison inquired about data that could be used to share what worked in IMPACT to retain providers when the pandemic caused a significant drop-off for most childcare providers.

Control group data for comparison is not available or is unknown to First 5 Yolo.

J. Lahai noted that basic needs support was critical in retaining families. Many families, including immigrants and refugees lost jobs and income; therefore, providing them with material support including gas cards, food, internet connectivity, diapers etc., was essential in responding adequately to the needs of FFN providers and keeping them engaged in the program.

G. Lewis added many providers were forced to close their doors and material support helped them

make it through the pandemic. The Local Childcare Planning Council also shared data that the majority of FFNs are not paid and identified food insecurity as a top concern.

V. Zimmerle noted that the vaccination effort First 5 and partners led, which allowed FFNs to be eligible for vaccines, was key in helping FFNs feel safe and be able to return to providing care again for their neighbors, friends, and grandchildren.

H. Kellison commended the work of the Commission, providers, and G. Daleiden's leadership in identifying the need for IMPACT before the pandemic and having it available to support FFNs through the crisis. This likely helped Yolo County shield providers from the harmful effects felt in other areas without this type of support.

Item #10. Accept Quarter 3 Revenue and Expenditure Year-to-Date Report

G. Daleiden briefly presented the Q3 Revenue and Expenditure Summary report. Commissioners expressed no concerns.

Accept Quarter 3 Revenue and Expenditure Year-to-Date Summary Report

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

V. Zimmerle took a roll call vote.

Motion carries unanimously.

Item# 11. Receive Updates and Provide Comments on Proposed Revision to the Current Strategic Plan to Extend for FY21/22-22/23

G. Daleiden reviewed the proposed revisions to the First 5 Yolo Strategic Plan which extends the term through FY22/23 aligned to the Commission's decision to extend the current Plan, which will reflect the Commission's desire to center on diversity and equity.

The First 5 Association (F5A) has identified a consultant to support its Race, Diversity Equity and Inclusion (REDI) work. The First 5 Association plans to provide curbside consulting to individual commissions and First 5 Yolo plans to align its REDI work with the F5A to avoid duplication in local equity work. There may be some costs to local commissions depending on local needs.

H. Kellison requested adding specific language to the strategic plan to call out that it is *Commissioners*, as a governing body, that should be engaged and committed to this equity work on an ongoing basis. H. Kellison agreed to provide language that should be added for the June Commission meeting for clarity.

The priority areas of First 5 Yolo and how the individual programs collectively work towards a system that enables optimal child development are now depicted under a new graphic (taken from the recent First 5 Yolo local evaluation, led by M. Ortigas). This replaces the dot matrix for further clarity and to better demonstrate the coordination of programs and initiatives achieved to date.

Item #12. Review Proposed Funding Plan FY21/22

All programs on the proposed funding plan fit within the three large initiatives of First 5 Yolo: Help Me Grow (HMG), IMPACT 2020, and the Child Project: Road to Resilience (R2R), except for a few minor system supports like Clear Impact.

The funding plan demonstrates the progress the Commission has made to move away from sporadic funding of siloed programs, and instead, invest in more coordinated system building. Some programs listed have multiple agencies working on the same initiatives such as HMG and R2R.

In the upcoming June Commission meeting, the contracted agencies will be detailed with the funding amounts.

Item #13. Approve Deputy Director Position

J. Provenza reminded attendees that individual employees cannot be discussed in open session. Individual employees are discussed during closed sessions, if needed.

G. Daleiden shared that First 5 Yolo has grown in volume and responsibility, and the type of work undertaken by staff. Compared to FY18/19, program allocations have increased by 131% and there has been a 30% increase in the sheer number of “regular” contracts directly related to the increased complexity of agency work.

While First 5 Yolo has increased staffing, having a clearly identified deputy director position would be helpful in communicating agency work in the community and allowing the Executive Director to focus less on day-to-day operations and more on Statewide and local policy work. This position is like one created by First 5 Riverside which includes a range of responsibilities including fiscal.

The position would be filled as early as May 23rd, which is the next pay period.

Approve Deputy Director Position

Motion: G. Lewis **Second:** H. Kellison

V. Zimmerle took a roll call vote.

Motion carried unanimously.

Item # 14. Receive and Discuss Update on First 5 Yolo American Rescue Plan Funding Proposals

The County began a process to assess internal needs with all departments and as First 5 is legally like a county department with some independent authorities, First 5 Yolo worked with partners to submit two proposals under a short timeline.

- 1) Welcome Baby, a 4.5-million-dollar universal home visiting proposal that would carry through for 3 years.
 - Limited home visits to all new mothers in Yolo County.
 - Partners across sectors agreed this was needed for recovery and response to the pandemic and that it will make a significant impact as it is an upstream/prevention effort.
 - Blanketed universal approach would de-stigmatize services and would identify and engage those who are often invisible and hard to reach.
 - One home visit from a nurse (approximately 1 week after hospital discharge) would be followed by 1-2 visits by a community-based health care workers/paraprofessional.
 - Partners collaborating on the Welcome Baby Proposal include CommuniCare Health Centers, Sutter Hospital, Yolo County Children’s Alliance, Children’s Therapy Center, and UCD Health Equity Across the Lifespan (HEAL) Lab.

- 2) Childcare Recovery proposal to support the full spectrum of childcare providers to recover from the pandemic. The total estimated cost is \$2.56 million, with most expended in 3-12 months.
- Infrastructure grants would be given to licensed providers willing to expand the number of children they can or have enrolled (e.g. opening a new license, expanding a license, expanding facilities).
 - Incentivize expanding or opening new 0-2 care slots with infrastructure grants.
 - Recovery Grants will be smaller, flexible grants, a type of “hazard pay” recognition for any licensed provider open in December 2020 and still open when grants are offered.
 - Health and safety items (air purifiers, outdoor handwashing stations, or outdoor area “shade sails”) will be offered to all types of childcare providers, including known license-exempt providers.
 - The final category of funding will assist in bridging the childcare gap for CalWORKS Families who fall off aid, have unaided household members, or who are just outside of eligibility, and will be implemented by HHSA.

J. Provenza noted that CFO shared the funding is narrower, so guidelines can change per new information from the Treasury.

G. Daleiden welcomed Commissioners to attend the Board of Supervisors meetings where proposals will be discussed and agreed to send out timing and agenda placement so commissioners can attend the call and support the proposals.

K. Jakowski will also share her letter of support for the F5 Proposals and Child Abuse Prevention Council (CAPC) presentation with the Commission.

V. Zimmerle commented that First 5 Yolo’s Proposals look well-aligned with recent updates that were made by the Federal Treasury.

G. Lewis asked about potential sources of revenue flowing to First 5 Yolo from the State. G. Daleiden indicated there is a legislative effort to recognize the role of First 5 as backbone support in connecting early childhood systems. An Orange County legislator (Senator Newman) brought this forward to the First 5 Association by their own initiative. The proposed budget of 20 million dollars would be for all 58 First 5s and this is currently under review by the First 5 Association. While the amount is small for each county, it sets an important precedent to recognize First 5’s support to strengthen childhood systems of care across the state.

Item #15. Accept Report on Part 2 of Fiscal Half-Year 1 Performance Measures

M. Ortigas provided an update on the remainder of funded partner progress. Key Highlights include:

- Attachment Bio-behavioral catchup (ABC) Joint project experienced some recruitment challenges, in part due to the pandemic, but also due to restricted eligibility criteria. K. Jakowski and her team at Child Welfare have worked with First 5 Yolo to expand eligibility criteria which will help in the 2021-22 fiscal year.
- ABC Road to Resilience experienced some challenges with recruitment due to families being dually enrolled in R2R Behavioral Health Navigation and not having the bandwidth to engage in multiple services during the pandemic. R2R also enrolled more prenatal clients in Behavioral

Health than anticipated, which initially caused an age gap in services since ABC started out for 6-month-olds and recently added a modified prenatal ABC component, which helped reach more R2R families, though did not reach full program capacity.

- G. Daleiden noted the increased mental health needs of families have made it clear that the need is greatest for additional behavioral health support, so in the new fiscal year, .5FTE of ABC R2R will cease and will instead shift to increase the FTE for behavioral health services. The expanded eligibility criteria for ABC-Joint project with Child Welfare, however, will allow more clients to be served with ABC.
- Yolo Crisis Nursery provided critical wraparound services and childcare slots during the pandemic. They maintained a positive 0% rate of entry or reentry into child welfare services.
- Family Hui demonstrated notable systems change and collaboration. The Center for Mind and Brain at UC Davis evaluated their program including a larger sample across counties (320) and showed similar positive results to Yolo's outcomes. Family Hui has been featured on ACEs Aware and has helped empower families through their peer leadership model. Former participants have become staff who continue to give back to their community and are empowered to advocate for themselves and their families.

Packet attachments for items 15 and 16 were in inversed order. Packet was updated and reposted.

Accept Report on Part 2 of Fiscal Half-Year 1 Performance Measures

Motion: H. Kellison **Second:** G. Lewis

V. Zimmerle took a roll call vote.

Motion carries unanimously.

Item #16. Hold Public Hearing and Accept First 5 CA Annual Report for FY19-20

Annually, First 5 CA releases an Annual Report to the Legislature. The Children & Families Act requires each county commission hold a public hearing to review the First 5 CA Annual Report. First 5 Staff can forward any comments to First 5 California.

Chair opened the public hearing at: 4:51pm.

No public comment.

Chair closed public hearing at: 4:52pm.

Accept First 5 CA Annual Report for FY19-20

Motion: H. Kellison **Second:** S. Brown

V. Zimmerle took a roll call vote.

Motion carries unanimously.

Item #17. Executive Director Report

Updates:

- Healthy Davis Together will provide First 5 Yolo office safety assessment, including healthy ventilation advice.

- First 5 Yolo office lease renewal --Staff are currently working with the property owner and any concrete proposals would be brought to the Commission
- Budget request by State Senator Newman to recognize F5's role in systems coordination.
- Cannabis Tax Funds request for Behavioral Health Home Visiting support needs has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

Item #18. Commissioner Reports

H. Kellison noted she will be part of Yolo Crisis Nursery's capital campaign committee and will be mindful of any conflicting requests.

Item 19. Adjournment

J. Provenza adjourned the meeting at 4:54pm.

Next Commission Meeting scheduled:

June 9, 2021 via Zoom