



The First 5 Yolo Children and Families Commission met on the 14th day of October of 2020

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:

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

Staff in Attendance:

Gina Daleiden, Melina Ortigas, Victoria Zimmerle

Public in Attendance:

Nolan Sullivan, Jane Eadie

Item #1: Call to order

J. Provenza called the meeting to order at 3:04pm

Item#2: Roll Call

Absent: none, Garth Lewis arrived shortly after call to order.

Item #3: Approval of Agenda

Approve Agenda

Chair Provenza called a voice vote with all in favor.

Motion: H. Kellison **Second:** M. Roberts Motion carries unanimously

Item #4: State of Conflict and Recusal

None.

Item #5: Public Comment

None.

Item #6: Updates and Announcements from the Chair

J. Provenza and G. Daleiden reported on the successful presentation of First 5 Yolo to The Board of Supervisors.

J. Provenza introduced Fawn Montagna, who recently joined the First 5 Yolo team as QCC Program Officer. F. Montagna has 22 years of childcare experience in various settings and across three states. She lives in Winters where she previously held a position as childcare center director. She participated in IMPACT as Center director so is excited to be able to lead IMPACT 2020 with First 5 Yolo. F. Montagna reported that new Family Friend and Neighbor (FFN) teams are now operating in Winters, Esparto, and West Sacramento. Participants represent multiple generations of families, friends, and neighbors from diverse backgrounds. Coaches work with FFNs to support them and share resources and



best practices to promote quality early childcare.

Item #7: Approve First 5 Yolo Commission Meeting Minutes from [09/09/2020](#)

Item #8: Approve Finance Committee Meetings

Item #9: Receive COVID-19 Fund Allocation Report

Approve Consent Agenda items 7-9

Motion: S. Brown **Second:** K. Jakowski
Chair Provenza called a roll call vote. Motion carries unanimously

Item #10: Receive R2R Cannabis Video Presentation

G. Daleiden presented one of several videos on Cannabis education created by Jeta Kumaveral during her tenure at First 5 Yolo. The videos include education and safety-related topics during pregnancy and breastfeeding based on the latest research on cannabis impacts. There are also videos, trainings, and materials created for provider education as well as outreach to the community to demonstrate the wide array of services in Yolo County. Videos designed for the public audience will be displayed in waiting rooms at CommuniCare and other partner locations.

Item # 11: Receive FY19/20 Q4 Funded Partner Performance Measure Summary Report

Management Services Officer M. Ortigas provided an overview of the performance metrics for Attachment Biobehavioral Catch-Up (ABC) Home Visiting Joint Project and Maternal Mental Health program that is a part of First 5 Yolo's Help Me Grow. Maternal Mental Health in-home therapy for moms is needed increasingly, considering COVID, and the program continues to offer effective support to families. Due to the stressors at home, some clients may prefer to go to the clinic to offer respite from home stressors, and thus this is an area the program staff will look at in the coming months. Presentation materials will be added to the Commission Packet.

ABC coaches were able to engage with clients and help ensure their successful completion of the program under the average timelines (compared to other sites across the country). K. Jakowski highlighted that program completion rates were noteworthy considering this is a difficult population to engage and retain in services. Re-entry into Child Welfare Services (CWS) is a particularly important outcome because when CWS intervenes in a case and then reunifies families, the goal is to not have the child re-enter foster care services again.

G. Daleiden provided The CHILD Project: Road to Resilience (R2R) and Help Me Grow highlights and noted the early outcome measures for R2R were very promising. G. Daleiden noted that new performance measures, that were not part of the CHILD Project Pilot, were added to R2R, and these results are based on the first months of full launch of the expanded program.

Item 12: Public Hearing: FY19/20 First 5 Yolo Annual Report to the Legislature and First 5 CA

G. Daleiden reminded the Commission of the requirements of First 5 California Annual Reporting. The data format is not necessarily aligned to local evaluation, as it is designed to meet the data aggregation needs of the State for all 58 counties in CA. Per Proposition 10, First 5 Yolo staff must complete the



Annual Report and The Commission must hold a public hearing on the reporting in order to receive Proposition 10 funding.

J. Provenza opened the Public Hearing at 3:29 p.m.

J. Provenza closed the Public Hearing at 3:30 p.m.

Item 13: Accept FY19/20 First 5 Yolo Annual Report to the Legislature and First 5 CA

Accept FY19/20 First 5 Yolo Annual Report

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

J. Provenza called a roll call vote. Motion carries unanimously

Item 14: Public Hearing: FY19/20 Independent Financial Audit

V. Zimmerle was pleased to report there were no audit findings for First 5 Yolo. In addition to the Financial audit, per Statute, First 5 Yolo is also required to have a compliance audit to ensure that all components of the statute are being followed, and the auditor found First 5 Yolo to be in compliance with no material defects.

V. Zimmerle highlighted the increased leveraged funding. This year First 5 Yolo's total revenues were over three million and only half of that amount is coming from Proposition 10 while the other portion is largely made up of grants from the State.

With the increased leveraged funds, there was a decrease in the total percent of administrative expenses (approximately 7% total in administrative costs which is under the 10% per local policy). First 5 Yolo's in-kind contribution is to provide largely pass-through costs to partners and not take any indirect to maximize program dollars.

H. Kellison commended V. Zimmerle's great work and noted the significant improvements over the years that First 5 has made and which she was able to witness having served as Treasurer on the Finance Committee.

J. Provenza opened the public hearing at 3:39 p.m.

J. Provenza closed the public hearing at 3:40 p.m.

Item 15: Approve and Accept FY19-20 Independent Financial Audit

Approve and Accept FY19/20 Independent Financial Audit

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

J. Provenza called a roll call vote. Motion carries unanimously

Item 16: Approve Update to Fiscal year 2021 Budget

At the close of Fiscal Year 19/20 (June 30, 2020), the Commission's ending fund balance was \$2,091,195. The Commission maintains a target reserve balance across multiple reservice types, each for a different



designated purpose, of \$1.8M. As of June 30, 2020, the Commission's fund balance is in excess of its target reserve amounts by \$291,195. These one-time, surplus funds are available for allocation at the Commission's discretion and will not affect Strategic Plan Direction which calls for the use of reserve balances to support the sustainability of multi-year initiatives.

At their meeting on October 7, 2020, the Finance Committee recommended allocating up to \$15,000 of the one-time surplus funding to augment the Local Childcare Planning Council (LPC)/Yolo County Office of Education's Local Childcare Needs Assessment. G. Daleiden explained that there are gaps in the existing state and local data that make it difficult to see in real-time the extent of closures impacting Yolo County. Harder+Co., the evaluator for the Needs Assessment, can use augmented funding to develop a survey of providers to help inform the LCP and First 5 Yolo's strategic planning, as well as COVID recovery efforts.

The Finance Committee also recommended allocating \$40,000 to add Extra Help staff time, across approximately two years, to provide accounting and office support to First 5 Yolo as workload expands with new programming.

G. Daleiden noted, that in addition, the Commission previously discussed in other meetings allocating 100,000 to Yolo Crisis Nursery for their Capital Campaign.

G. Daleiden recommended that new ideas presented, such as the County's pilot proposal, may require another meeting for staff to prepare a recommendation with more specific information for the Commission to decide on a course of action.

N. Sullivan, Director of County Health and Human Services Service Center Branch overseeing welfare programs, presented the rationale for the County pilot and explained how it could serve the most vulnerable families in the Housing Support Program. The State implemented the Cal-Works Housing Support Program (HSP) which allows payment for almost everything needed to stabilize a family in crisis. However, the missing element in these services is basic income or cash assistance to families, which research supports, could help families break the cycle of poverty.

N. Sullivan further explained that there are currently 36 families with children aged 0-2 in the deepest poverty in Yolo County, and, if the Commission agrees, the \$100,000 dollars could be used to allocate to these families a basic income support over a period of time in a pilot program and study. The Pilot is in initial discussion and planning phases, but could be designed to bring a multi-disciplinary team-based approach and partner with agencies like the library, education, First 5, and health care, to provide wraparound services and cash assistance to these families. The plan is to include a 1-2-year pilot, evaluate progress, and then work to secure additional funding from larger funders to expand the program if it is proven successful.

J. Rexroad added a concern that studies are just starting to be released regarding the overall impact of this pandemic on young children. Very young children are looking at screens and seeing masked faces, for instance, and this is affecting their mental health. In general, there is not much known yet on what will be needed in the next 6 months or 12 months and a survey of funded partners to gauge the need might be worthwhile.

The Commission requested further information and recommendations from First 5 Yolo Staff about



using the funds for the County pilot or possibly distributing among First 5's three largest initiatives.

H. Kellison, provided a summary of the need to support the relocation and expansion of the Yolo Crisis Nursery, which services hundreds of children each year. Through photographs, she demonstrated the tight quarters that prevent staff from social distancing properly. Given their significant need for more space and prior Commission discussion of this possible allocation, H. Kellison would like to allocate \$100,000 from First 5 Yolo Reserves to support their initiative to build a new facility on approximately one acre of donated land they have received.

J. Provenza noted the county allocated \$200,000 of cannabis funding to the Yolo Crisis Nursery. The funding from First 5 Yolo would give them \$300,000 in total from the County.

G. Daleiden confirmed First 5 Yolo would first consult with County Counsel and County leadership prior to allocating the funds to ensure appropriate allocation pathways. First 5 Yolo would likely hold the funds until necessary as the funds earn interest for First 5 Yolo.

J. Provenza asked for Public comment at 4:41 p.m.

J. Eadie noted that the Yolo Crisis Nursery has been full since the pandemic, with staff having nowhere else to go, but they continue to offer families wraparound services that are life-changing for families. Domestic violence has increased dramatically, with 86% of Yolo Crisis Nursery clients reporting domestic violence. Most remarkably, 99% of families served remained intact and avoided entry into Child Welfare. In FY 19/20, 692 children were served and there were 2,682 safe stays, and 2,714 care packages distributed. Having the County's support and commitment to invest in the Yolo Crisis Nursery's campaign would help ensure that additional donors will invest as well, and services could be expanded to meet the growing needs of families.

Motion to approve revised budget and set aside \$100,000 from reserves for Yolo Crisis Nursery building

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

J. Provenza called a roll call vote

Motion carries unanimously

Item 17. Executive Director Report

G. Daleiden is currently working on finalizing the job description for the Systems Officer who will help oversee the Home Visiting Coordination at .625 FTE (25 hours a week) for a two-year term.

More supplies are coming from Baby2Baby, and First 5 CA and Yolo County Office of Education has graciously accepted to hold the supplies for partners while they collect what they need to distribute to their families. Baby2Baby has been very generous with their support to First 5 Yolo and other First 5s as well.

Item 18. Commissioner Reports:

No commissioner reports.



Item 19. Adjournment

J. Provenza adjourned the meeting to closed session at 4:53pm

CLOSED SESSION AGENDA

1. Public Employee Evaluation Government Code Section 54957(b)(1) First 5 Executive Director

2. Conference with Labor Negotiator (§ 54957.6)
Unrepresented Employee: First 5 Executive Director

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

The Commission returned to regular session at 5:10pm

Report out from Closed Session:

J. Provenza reported that the Executive Director received a positive performance review.

Motion to approve a pay step increase for the Executive Director

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

J. Provenza called a roll call vote (J. Rexroad, G. Lewis absent) Motion carries unanimously

Chair Adjournment at 5:15 p.m.

Next Commission Meeting scheduled:

November 18, 2020 via zoom

