

# AGENDA

## MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

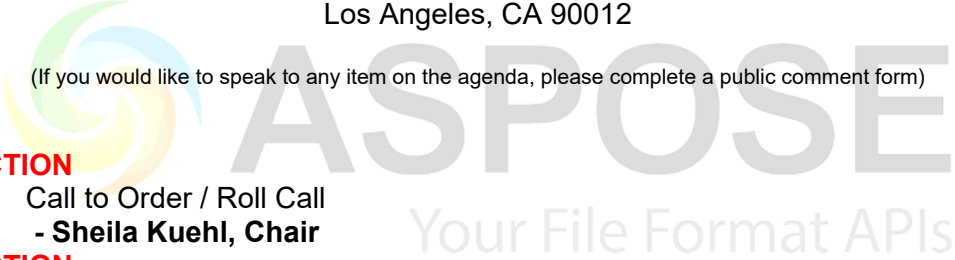
Chair: Sheila Kuehl

Thursday, March 10, 2016  
1:30 PM 4:30 PM

### Meeting Location:

First 5 LA  
750 N. Alameda Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

(If you would like to speak to any item on the agenda, please complete a public comment form)

- 
1. **ACTION**  
Call to Order / Roll Call  
- **Sheila Kuehl, Chair**
  2. **ACTION**  
Consent  
- **John Wagner, Chief Operating Officer**
    - A. Approve Commission Meeting Summary Action Minutes and Transcript 3  
- Thursday, February 11, 2016
    - B. Approve the Monthly Financial Statements Month Ending January 31, 2016 105
    - C. Contract: Approve One New Agreement and Authorize Staff to Complete Final Execution 111  
Upon Approval from the Board
    - D. Approve Contract with Los Angeles County Office of Education for Evaluation of the California State Preschool Program (CSPP) Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) Block Grant 113
    - E. Approve Strategic Partnership with Glen Price Group for the LA Campaign for Grade Level Reading - School Readiness Workgroup and Execute Contract Upon Approval from the Board 115

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#### COMMISSIONERS

Los Angeles County Supervisor	Jane Boeckmann	Yvette Martinez
Sheila Kuehl	Bobby Cagle	Romalis J. Taylor
Chair	Barbara Ferrer, Ph.D., M.P.H., M.Ed.	Keesha Woods Marlene Zepeda, Ph.D.
Judy Abdo		
Vice Chair		

#### EX OFFICIO MEMBERS

Karla Pleitez Howell
Jonathan E. Sherin, M.D., Ph.D.
Wendy Smith, Ph.D., LCSW
Deanne Tilton

#### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Kim Belshé

#### EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

John A. Wagner

#### A PUBLIC ENTITY

3. **INFORMATION**  
 Remarks by the Commission Chair of the Board  
 - **Sheila Kuehl, Commission Chair**
4. **INFORMATION** 121  
 Executive Director's Report  
 - **Kim Belshé, Executive Director**
5. **ACTION**  
 Approve Recommendations on Expiring Initiatives  
 - **Tara Ficek, Director, Grants Management**
  - A. Waive Governance Guideline #7 (Requires 7 of 9 votes)
  - B. Approve Extending the Strategic Partnership with 211 LA County for the Information Resource and Referral (211) Initiative
  - C. Approve Extending Early Identification and Intervention (EII) – Autism and Other Developmental Delays Initiative 140  
 – Approve Resolution 2016-02
  - D. Authorize Staff to Complete Final Execution of the Contracts upon Board approval of the FY 2016-2017 Programmatic Budget 141
6. **INFORMATION** 155  
 California State Policy and Government Affairs Update  
 - **Peter Barth, Director, Policy and Intergovernmental Affairs**  
 - **John Benton, Principal, California Strategies**  
 - **Monique Ramos, Associate, California Strategies**
7. Break
8. **INFORMATION** 177  
 Mid Year Budget Adjustments for FY 2015-16  
 - **Raoul Ortega, Director, Finance**  
 - **Alison Mendes, Manager, Finance**
9. **INFORMATION** 199  
 Using Strategic Communications to Advance First 5 LA's Programmatic and Policy Goals  
 - **Gabriel Sanchez, Director, Communications and Marketing**
10. **INFORMATION**  
 Public Comment (for items not on the agenda)
11. **ACTION**  
 Adjournment

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## SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES

### FIRST 5 LA Board of Commissioners Meeting February 11, 2016 1:30-4:30 pm

#### **COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

##### **Commissioners:**

Judy Abdo (Vice Chair)  
Nancy Au  
Jane Boeckmann  
Suzanne Bostwick  
Duane Dennis  
Sheila Kuehl (Chair)  
Christopher Thompson  
Joseph Ybarra  
Marlene Zepeda

##### **Ex-Officio Commissioners:**

Philip Browning  
Patricia Curry  
Deanne Tilton

#### **COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:**

Cynthia Harding [Excused]  
Karla Pleitéz Howell [Excused]

#### **STAFF PRESENT:**

Kim Belshé, Executive Director  
Raoul Ortega, Finance Director  
Teresa Nuno, Chief of Programs and Planning  
Linda Vo, Commission Secretary  
John Wagner, Chief Operating Officer

#### **LEGAL COUNSEL:**

Craig Steele, Attorney-at-Law

#### **CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL / CONSENT:** (Items 1-2)

1. Commission Chair Kuehl called the meeting to order at 1:32 pm. Quorum was present.
2. Consent
  - A. Approve Commission Meeting Summary Action Minutes and Transcript - Thursday, January 14, 2016
  - B. Approve the Monthly Financial Statements Month Ending December 31, 2015
  - C. Approve Long Term Financial Projection
  - D. Approve FY 2016-17 Budget Calendar
  - E. Approve Richards, Watson & Gershon (RWG) to Provide Legal Services
  - F. Contract: Approve Three New Agreements and Authorize Staff to Complete Final Contract Execution Upon Approval from the Board

#### **M/S (Nancy Au/ Suzanne Bostwick) THE ITEM WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**

#### **COMMISSION:** (Items 3 – 11)

3. Remarks by the Commission Chair of the Board
4. Executive Director's Report
5. Project DULCE
  - A. Authorize First 5 LA Staff to Receive Up to \$115,000 in Funding from The Center for the Study of Social Policy (CSSP);
    - Approve Resolution No. 2016-01
  - B. Authorize First 5 LA Staff to Execute a Contract with CSSP for First 5 LA to Launch Project Developmental Understanding and Legal Collaboration for Everyone (Project DULCE) in Los Angeles County; and

## SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES

- C. Approve Strategic Partnerships with the Following Clinics in the Amount of \$212,000 per Clinic and authorize Staff to Complete Final Contract Execution Upon Approval to Implement Project DULCE:
1. The Children's Clinic
  2. Northeast Valley Health Corporation
  3. St. John's Well Child and Family Center

**M/S (Duane Dennis/ Christopher Thompson)  
THE ITEM WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**

6. Expiring Initiatives Review Process and Updates: Spring 2016
- A. Permanent Supportive Housing
  - B. Information Resource and Referral
  - C. Parent Child Interaction Therapy
  - D. Early Identification and Intervention – Autism and Other Developmental Delays

A presentation was given by Ms. Tara Ficek on upcoming expiring initiatives.

7. Break

8. Federal Advocate Update

A presentation was given by Mr. Joel Packer on the Federal landscape as it relates to ECE.

9. Governor's Budget Proposal for FY 2016-17

A presentation was given by Mr. Peter Barth on the most recent budget proposal by the Governor.

10. Public Comment (for items not on the agenda)

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

The Commission adjourned at 3:54 pm.

### **NEXT MEETING:**

The next Commission meeting will take place on March, 10, 2016 at 1:30 pm.

First 5 LA  
Multi-Purpose Room, First Floor  
750 N. Alameda Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Meeting minutes were recorded by Linda Vo, Secretary, Board of Commissioners.

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MEETING OF FIRST 5 BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
Thursday, February 11, 2016  
750 North Alameda Street, First Floor  
Los Angeles, California 90012

REPORTED BY:  
HEATHERLYNN GONZALEZ  
CSR #13646

1 Thursday, February 11, 2016; Los Angeles, California

2 1:33 p.m.

3 -oOo-

4 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: Welcome to the February  
5 meeting of the First 5 LA board of commissioners. Let's  
6 start with -- I think a roll call.

7 SECRETARY: Judy Abdo.

8 COMMISSIONER ABDO: Here.

9 SECRETARY: Nancy Au.

10 COMMISSIONER AU: Here.

11 SECRETARY: Jane Boeckmann.

12 COMMISSIONER BOECKMANN: Here.

13 SECRETARY: Duane Dennis.

14 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: Here.

15 SECRETARY: Suzanne Bostwick.

16 COMMISSIONER BOSTWICK: Here.

17 SECRETARY: Christopher Thompson.

18 COMMISSIONER THOMPSON: Here.

19 SECRETARY: Joseph Ybarra.

20 COMMISSIONER YBARRA: Here.

21 SECRETARY: Marlene Zepeda.

22 COMMISSIONER ZEPEDA: Here.

23 SECRETARY: Phillip Browning.

24 COMMISSIONER BROWNING: Here.

25 SECRETARY: Patricia Curry.

1 COMMISSIONER CURRY: Here.

2 SECRETARY: Karla Pleitez Howell.

3 Deanne Tilton.

4 COMMISSIONER TILTON: Here.

5 SECRETARY: Sheila Kuehl.

6 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: Here.

7 SECRETARY: Quorum is present.

8 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: All right. Thank you. The  
9 first item -- for action is the consent calendar.

10 MR. WAGNER: Good afternoon, madam chair, members  
11 of the commission. A few brief comments on pieces of the  
12 Consent Item Number 2 on the agenda. Just to call out  
13 subitems A and B are approval of the minutes and monthly  
14 financial statements. Subitems C and D were the topics of  
15 presentation to the board at our last board meeting by  
16 Raoul Ortega, our finance director, and Allison Mendes,  
17 the finance manager. Your vote on these items expressed  
18 the fact that the board received these items and -- on the  
19 2016-17 budget calendar that we -- and that we forward the  
20 same kind of schedule and process that we have in years  
21 past.

22 You'll recall that Raoul went through an existing  
23 policy from 2012 that basically calls us to go to a  
24 biannual budget. And although we will not be doing that,  
25 our recommendation is not to do that. We are looking to

1 bring that policy back through the budget and finance  
2 committee with some recommendations as to, you know,  
3 revisiting that policy. But your action on this item  
4 would basically adhere to the regular schedule that we've  
5 pursued for our annual budget.

6 Subitem E is the approval of the contract for  
7 legal services with Richards Watson & Gershon. And you'll  
8 recall I presented this item for information and  
9 discussion at the last board meeting. This is a result  
10 of an open, competitive solicitation. And I presented  
11 this, as I mentioned, last month, and that RWG will  
12 continue to provide legal services to the board, the  
13 executive director, and staff. This contract is for three  
14 years with two one-year extensions.

15 And finally subitem F is the consent calendar,  
16 which is a spreadsheet that we provide every month to the  
17 board that outlines all of the new amended or renewed  
18 contracts. This month we have three new contracts for  
19 your consideration. The first is with an entity called  
20 VIVA Strategy and Communications. This is a contract for  
21 \$1.023 million spread over three fiscal years. This  
22 year's budgeted amount is \$190,615. This contract  
23 reflects the presentation staff brought before the board  
24 last November. And it's important to know that these  
25 funds were received from First 5 California. So our

1 budget is passing through the state dollars for this  
2 project.

3 The remaining two new contracts are part of our  
4 Best Start community capacity building work. You'll  
5 recall the board previously approved 11 of these contracts  
6 for our 14 of Best Start communities. The two before you  
7 today and another contract that we're expecting to bring  
8 forward next month will ensure that all Best Start  
9 communities' capacity building efforts are underway, which  
10 is very exciting. Antoinette Andrews of our Best Start  
11 department provided an update on this work last November.  
12 These contracts are a result of an open competitive  
13 solicitation. The two before you today are with the  
14 Antelope Valley Partners for Health for \$173,050 and the  
15 Los Angeles Universal Preschool, or LAUP, for \$157,304.

16 Given the importance of these efforts and given  
17 that we have some new board members, Antoinette is going  
18 to provide a very brief overview of these two final Best  
19 Start contracts.

20 MS. ANDREWS: Thank you, John. Good afternoon,  
21 commissioners.

22 As John noted, with today's approval 13 of the 14  
23 Best Start communities will be funded to implement  
24 community-identified project. It is anticipated that the  
25 remaining community, West Athens, will be brought to the

1 board for approval in March 2016. With the approval of  
2 each Best Start grant, First 5 LA is demonstrating its  
3 commitment to the people. The people within these  
4 communities have been working diligently to creating an  
5 environment of healthy relationships, early learning  
6 experiences for children, and quality resources for  
7 parents.

8 Previous discussions with the board about Best  
9 Start typically centers around jargon, theories, and  
10 research that help to guide this work. But all of this  
11 simply confirms what the community members already know:  
12 Connections between people, knowledge and skills of  
13 parents and caregivers, the community environment, and the  
14 quality of resources the community provides to its  
15 families all matter a great deal to the healthy  
16 development of children.

17 The projects before you today and the 11 other  
18 projects that the board has approved thus far is a clear  
19 message to community members that what matters to them  
20 also matters to First 5 LA. These projects are aligned  
21 with the commission's strategic focus which puts parents  
22 at the center of our work because they are their child's  
23 first and most influential teacher. In the new strategic  
24 plan, First 5 LA has acknowledged that parents do not  
25 exist in a vacuum. They live in neighborhoods and belong

1 to communities. They trust other care givers in informal  
2 and formal child care settings and preschool to care for  
3 and teach their children. They rely on systems to access  
4 services and they look to others in their community to  
5 provide them with a helping hand and a shoulder to lean on  
6 when they need it most.

7 In Northeast Valley, one of the contracts before  
8 you today or the grants before you today, community  
9 members are concerned about barriers to access and quality  
10 child care. Their project focuses on advocacy around  
11 access to quality early care and education services. They  
12 also want to ensure that parents and providers have the  
13 knowledge and skills to promote child development. This  
14 very much aligns with First 5 LA's work around developing  
15 a uniformed quality rating and improvement system.

16 And in Lancaster, a community that faces  
17 tremendous social isolation, community members want to  
18 strengthen social connections and ensure that parents know  
19 about and can access services and resources, particularly  
20 those that increase parents' knowledge of child  
21 development, how to handle stress, and how to create  
22 nurturing environments for their children.

23 All the community projects that have come before  
24 you, and a summary of them are in your board packet, all  
25 of these projects are concrete examples of what it means

1 for a community to support families. And this is what we  
2 have referred to as community capacity building. It is  
3 important to note that these projects are just the  
4 beginning. As communities learn from these projects and  
5 discuss other ways to support families, we will bring  
6 additional projects over the course of the strategic plan.  
7 Additionally, as discussed in the January program and  
8 planning committee meeting, staff is currently working to  
9 develop an evaluation plan to determine the impact of the  
10 Best Start investment across the 14 communities.

11 And, finally, as mentioned in my opening remarks,  
12 staff is anticipating bringing the final community before  
13 you, which is West Athens, for approval.

14 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: Thank you, Ms. Andrews.

15 Does any commission member wish to remove any  
16 item from the consent calendar?

17 Seeing none, do I have a motion to adopt the  
18 consent calendar, approve it.

19 COMMISSIONER AU: So moved.

20 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: And a second?

21 COMMISSIONER BOSTWICK: And second.

22 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: All right. It's been moved  
23 and seconded. Any objection?

24 All right. Unanimous vote then is recorded.

25 Thank you. Moving to the next item, remarks by

1 the chair of the board.

2 Let's see. I guess two things. One is you may  
3 be aware, I hope you are because we sure tried to get the  
4 word out, that the County as well as the City of  
5 Los Angeles adopted a fairly comprehensive and, in my --  
6 my kind of exciting, plan for addressing homelessness  
7 across the entire county and across all the populations  
8 that are affected by homelessness in the county and across  
9 all of our ability to provide services both through the  
10 county and in partnership with nonprofits, with  
11 philanthropy, with business, with all of our 88 cities.  
12 And it was very, very exciting. And homelessness  
13 intersects in many ways with the work that we try to do  
14 here at First 5 LA because so many families are homeless.  
15 And in those families are the very children about whom  
16 we've been tasked to care.

17 We had a very moving video made actually by the  
18 County's public information office. One never thinks that  
19 their own public information office can make these great,  
20 emotional videos with music and everything, but this was  
21 very moving. And it told the story of three individuals  
22 and one family who were formerly homeless, and they were  
23 filmed at that place on the street where they used to  
24 sleep talking about what it felt like, talking about their  
25 lives, and talking about how they are now housed and how

1 they got help through various agencies, individuals,  
2 people.

3 One of them was a family of five. They lived in  
4 their car in a parking lot at a mall. And both parents  
5 worked. The children went to school. They had a regular  
6 life, but they lived in the car because they couldn't  
7 afford to move -- having lost their place. You know, you  
8 need first and last. You need so much money to get back  
9 into housing. And they were helped eventually to get back  
10 into housing, but the youngest child who actually was more  
11 than five, lest you think they were being exploited in  
12 some way, was asked kind of along with the rest of the  
13 family what it had felt like -- you know, it's like one of  
14 those stupid questions that the press asks you after you  
15 just had your arm chopped off or something. But what was  
16 it like. And she just burst into tears and so did all the  
17 camera operators and everybody in the room because it was  
18 so traumatic for her and for the family. And then getting  
19 back into a place where they talked about just having a  
20 key. We close the door and it's all yours and it's safe  
21 and it's your family, et cetera.

22 So we are committed yet again even more to the  
23 issue of housing and rehousing and rapid rehousing  
24 families. So I wanted to share with you because I think  
25 there's a real partnership here with First 5 LA and will

1 continue to be.

2 Secondly, I want to thank Kim and Duane and Trish  
3 and Deanne and Karla and all of the commissioners for the  
4 support of our attempt to do something about child care  
5 for our foster kids. And we're moving, as we continue to  
6 try in Sacramento, on a -- hopefully on a budget item --  
7 it's always a little dicey as you go through the process  
8 -- that would provide some emergency housing vouchers  
9 because children, when they get into foster families,  
10 often they don't qualify for child care anymore. And it  
11 doesn't make sense to me. We're going to try to change it  
12 and have it make sense. But we also -- part of it is also  
13 to create some navigators to help people -- this  
14 particular population access child care. So I'm very  
15 excited about that as well.

16 And, again, it's only my second meeting, but I'm  
17 loving it. So thank you all very much for the work that  
18 you do.

19 And now over to Director Belshe.

20 MS. BELSHE: Thank you very much, madam chair,  
21 and members.

22 I want to call out two items from my executive  
23 director's report and then we have an acknowledgment that  
24 we would like to make.

25 First, building upon Antoinette's really strong

1 and eloquent overview of the work of our Best Start  
2 community partnerships and the really terrific progress  
3 we're seeing in terms of the board action just now, 13 of  
4 the 14 community-identified projects being approved and  
5 moving forward. We, First 5 LA, the executive team, are  
6 on a path to meet with all 14 of the Best Start  
7 partnerships over the course of the next number of months.  
8 And these are meetings that we began in December. And I  
9 appreciate Commissioner Au and Commissioner Bostwick for  
10 attending that first meeting, the first of what ultimately  
11 will be 14.

12 A number of goals we are seeking to advance.  
13 Number one, we want to underscore our commitment to the  
14 work of the Best Start community partnerships as an  
15 important part of our work going forward.

16 Secondly, we want to do so in a way at an  
17 executive leadership, both executive team, John and/or  
18 Teresa are going to be joining me for many of these  
19 meetings as well as commissioners who have been and will  
20 continue to be invited to these meetings going forward.

21 Third, in the context of the community-identified  
22 projects being approved by the board, we have an  
23 opportunity to learn, how's it going, what is the  
24 experience in our communities. Central Long Beach, where  
25 we had that first meeting, they were the first partnership

1 that the board approved their identified priority and  
2 activities. So we want to be able to go out into those  
3 communities where some implementation activity is underway  
4 and see what we can learn from that.

5 And finally, we want to engage in a dialogue with  
6 the partnerships, both in terms of what's -- what's going  
7 well, but also to hear from them what some of the  
8 challenges are in the nature of this work.

9 So I really want to commend our Best Start staff  
10 and communication staff for facilitating and scheduling  
11 these meetings, and proactively to thank commissioners for  
12 -- if you get a call from us, you'll know what it's about.  
13 And we're really hopeful that each board member will be  
14 able to attend at least one of those community partnership  
15 meetings. And we're also encouraging each of our  
16 department heads who make up our senior management team  
17 participating as well, given that Best Start really is an  
18 organization-wide investment with organization-wide  
19 commitments.

20 The second item I wanted to highlight from some  
21 work I did about a week ago with Pegah Faed, who's our  
22 strategic plan project lead for trauma-informed care. And  
23 as commissioners know, this is a new issue for First 5 LA.  
24 So the past number of months we've really been in a  
25 listening and learning mode to better understand what is

1 going on, not just in LA county, but really statewide as  
2 it relates to preventing violence and supporting  
3 trauma-informed responses to violence where it occurs. So  
4 we've been very transparent and humble about our need to  
5 get smart. And the board has been terrific in terms of  
6 dedicating time on a number of board agendas over the  
7 course of the past year to hear directly from those who  
8 are leading the work both here at home as well as  
9 statewide.

10 I had the opportunity to moderate a convening  
11 that the Futures Without Violence group, lead by Esta  
12 Soler, who's one of the nation's leading figures in  
13 violence prevention and trauma-informed communities, that  
14 they convened. There was a day-long convening in LA and  
15 then a second one in San Francisco. And there were seven  
16 or so teams, two from LA. They were all southern  
17 California, as well as Fresno. And it was just really  
18 inspiring. The diversity of the people sitting at these  
19 county tables is really quite extraordinary and reflective  
20 of the complexity of the challenges associated with  
21 violence prevention and trauma-informed communities. So  
22 there was law enforcement. There was academics, health  
23 care providers, advocates, civil justice organizations.  
24 It was really, really impressive to see how these  
25 different perspectives and organizations are knitting

1 together their work to advance some common outcomes as it  
2 relates to violence prevention and trauma-informed care.

3 We also had a number state agency leaders from  
4 the Attorney General's office, the Department of Social  
5 Services, the Department of Education, the Department of  
6 Public Health. So it was a great opportunity for the  
7 community leaders to hear from the county agencies in  
8 terms of what they're doing, but also for the county  
9 leaders to hear from the local leaders, the practitioners,  
10 about how certain state policy barriers make it very  
11 challenging to advance trauma-informed approaches.

12 From our vantage point, how lucky were we to be a  
13 part of this gathering of really terrific and  
14 inspirational practitioners, including some here in LA  
15 county. It was a good reminder of the diversity of the  
16 pieces of the puzzle that go into a comprehensive  
17 solution. What we are doing at First 5 LA already, as it  
18 relates to our investments in parenting skills, community  
19 capacities, family supporting service systems, all those  
20 are pieces to this complex puzzle around prevention  
21 violence and trauma-informed approaches, but we can do  
22 more.

23 And so we have had a number of -- we've made a  
24 number of references to some work that we are doing with  
25 the California Endowment, with Parsons, as well as

1 California Community Foundation, where on April 1 we will  
2 be convening a relatively small group of funders, county  
3 agency leads, and others to have a very LA county specific  
4 conversation about what -- what is -- what would a  
5 trauma-informed LA county look like? What are the  
6 activities that are already underway? How can we learn  
7 from those who have been moving ahead of us on this issue?  
8 And what value added can we and other philanthropic  
9 players play to support our county agencies and other  
10 partners in this field.

11 So more to come probably next to the PPC meeting  
12 on that trauma-informed care convening. We will be  
13 including a number of commissioners within the open  
14 meeting requirements. We do have some limitations there,  
15 but are really eager to take this next important step in  
16 terms of our developing an approach to trauma-informed  
17 communities and where we can add value.

18 So maybe, Madam Chair, I'll stop there, see if  
19 there are any comments or questions before I turn to an  
20 acknowledgment.

21 COMMISSIONER CURRY: I was wondering in your  
22 comments about the homeless initiative that you passed --  
23 I knew you passed one, but them haven't read it. And I  
24 wondered how many pages is it? Is it 400 or -- that's  
25 what I thought.

1           In terms of board education and First 5 working  
2 more with county government, maybe we could have a  
3 presentation at the P and P meeting or at the commission  
4 meeting or -- so we don't have to read 400 pages.

5           MS. BELSHE: We will definitely read the report  
6 for you, and --

7           SUPERVISOR KUEHL: As you might imagine, since  
8 the supervisors have trouble reading 400 pages as well,  
9 it's sort of what we always say, is there an executive  
10 summary. There were 47 initiatives divided into six  
11 areas. Phil Ansell (phonetic) who had lined the whole  
12 thing actually has it broken down -- a very good Power  
13 Point that we said couldn't go more than ten minutes. So  
14 I'm certain that Phil or one of his very able but very  
15 small staff would be happy to do it if you --

16           COMMISSIONER CURRY: That would be great. I  
17 think particularly the points to relate to the children  
18 and families that work with would be good for us to know  
19 what's going on.

20           SUPERVISOR KUEHL: There was a discussion meeting  
21 today even.

22           MS. BELSHE: Yeah. And I want to commend John  
23 Wagner, Tara Ficek, Sharon Murphy on our team who've been  
24 working with the supervisor's office, Phil Ansell, others  
25 in the county to better understand what is being proposed,

1 what is the direction, where might there be opportunities  
2 to align our investments and our approaches in a way that  
3 are mutually reinforcing.

4 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: Genie Chough, who is my  
5 children's deputy was there. Mollie Riseman (phonetic),  
6 who's my homelessness -- you know, we're trying to bring  
7 this together to focus specifically on these children.  
8 But yes, I can tell you there -- we would do a  
9 presentation. You want it to be P and P or --

10 COMMISSIONER CURRY: Wherever Kim feels --

11 MS. BELSHE: I think P and P is -- this is going  
12 to come up in the context of some of our expiring  
13 initiative work. There is a lot of activity. I think  
14 we're going to also hear from our federal advocates about  
15 some proposals that the President's put forward on issues  
16 of homelessness. So there's a lot of moving parts that we  
17 are trying to get our arms around to help inform our  
18 thinking about this very serious problem that we know does  
19 have big implications for our kids and where we might be  
20 able to offer some value. So it's probably P and P.

21 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: -- discussion with the chair  
22 of P and P and we'll have a -- if that's a request, we'll  
23 make certain that the presentation happens.

24 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: The only thing I would like  
25 to add, moving forward, there are other models in the

1 country that look at homelessness and the issues for  
2 children zero to five. Like drop-in care is a very  
3 popular, you know, mode of action because you have parents  
4 who need to go to the housing authority, they need to go  
5 to the gas and electric company, and they don't need  
6 formal care, but they need some sort of drop-in situation  
7 in which they can be assured that their children will be  
8 taken care during which time they're trying to take care  
9 of business to get back into housing. So there are other  
10 models throughout the country, and maybe staff would look  
11 at some of those in preparation for the discussion.

12 MS. BELSHE: Well, I think we'll also be hearing  
13 about some potential connecting points in our work later  
14 this afternoon when we're going to hear from Mabel about  
15 Project DULCE, which is about bringing services and  
16 supports into a clinic setting, including medical/legal  
17 partnerships support and housing has been a big piece of  
18 that at least in the other projects.

19 So there's some -- I think lot of good potential  
20 touch points, as well as new information coming out of the  
21 county.

22 COMMISSIONER CURRY: Thank you.

23 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: Anything else to Director  
24 Belshe?

25 Deanne.

1           COMMISSIONER TILTON:  Might we see this video  
2 during the presentation, the one that you've talked to us  
3 about the compelling --

4           SUPERVISOR KUEHL:  You want your heart strings --

5           COMMISSIONER TILTON:  Yeah, I need more of that  
6 than I already have.

7           MS. BELSHE:  I look forward to seeing that as  
8 well.

9           SUPERVISOR KUEHL:  Any requests made of the  
10 county, we will be so happy to do anything for First 5, as  
11 always.

12          MS. BELSHE:  Ever thus.

13          SUPERVISOR KUEHL:  Anything else?

14          All right.  Speaking of Project DULCE --

15          MS. BELSHE:  Actually, I want to do an  
16 acknowledgment if I may.

17          SUPERVISOR KUEHL:  Yes, of course.

18          MS. BELSHE:  If we can ask former commissioner  
19 Sandra Figueroa-Villa to stand and be acknowledged.

20          (Applause.)

21          MS. BELSHE:  So Sandra Figueroa-Villa was the  
22 appointee of Supervisor Solis and served -- excuse me --  
23 Supervisor Molina and then served for the first year of  
24 Supervisor Solis' tenure.  And we are delighted that she  
25 has the ability to come by and give a hug to everyone.

1 Keep going. Keep going. There you go. Hugs are very  
2 good, especially from Sandra.

3 So this organization, when we did the listening,  
4 learning, and leading effort back in 2013, board members  
5 may recall that -- you know we heard a lot about where we  
6 have some challenges, but we also heard a lot about our  
7 assets and our strengths. And the number one asset and  
8 strength that we have as an organization -- actually the  
9 two top -- I don't want to choose among the children --  
10 was staff and also board. And the community really has  
11 acknowledged the extraordinary experience and leadership  
12 and mission-driven nature of our commissioners. And one  
13 of the things that is so wonderful about having our  
14 commissioners is you really help us do our work much  
15 smarter and more ably and effective and compassionately.  
16 But one of the sad things about having board members is  
17 board members do change, so we have to say thank you.

18 And one of the ways we have been endeavoring to  
19 say thank you to retiring board members of late is to do  
20 word clouds. So we send around to the staff a request. I  
21 want to acknowledge Linda Vo, our board secretary, who's  
22 the lead on this. Soliciting feedback on, what are the  
23 words that you would use to describe a particular board  
24 member. It won't be surprising to see the ones that are  
25 popping very boldly with Sandra in terms of thoughtful,

1 supportive, social justice. I like this one, wondrous  
2 perspective. Wondrous perspective. Hugger is right there  
3 between the F and the 5. Respectful, civic lead. We know  
4 Sandra has served not only as the First 5 commissioner but  
5 also as la jefa on the police commission, which is heavy  
6 lifting for the city of LA. But in so many ways and more,  
7 Sandra has really embodied these wonderful.

8 Adjectives and we thank you, Sandra, so much for  
9 being such an energetic and engaged member of budget and  
10 finance, which is hard, hard work, our executive  
11 committee, and contributing in so many ways. So why are  
12 you walking away?

13 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: Because I asked her if she'd  
14 like to say something.

15 MS. BELSHE: Okay.

16 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: I'm sorry. That was --

17 MS. BELSHE: She was distancing. So thank you,  
18 Sandra.

19 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: She's going to the mic.

20 COMMISSIONER FIGUEROA-VILLA: So this morning I  
21 had -- it was an honor. I met with our new commissioner,  
22 Dr. Zepeda. And what's really cool is that I know we're  
23 going to be in good hands, our communities. I think that  
24 I learned -- when I was appointed to this commission, I  
25 thought and I was told by the previous commissioner, that

1 we had a lot of money and that we're going to be able to  
2 do some great things and fund all these little child care  
3 programs and help with technical assistance and just a lot  
4 of stuff. I was excited. But I was able to -- it didn't  
5 workout that way, obviously.

6 But I was able to participate in a really intense  
7 search for our executive director. And as you all know,  
8 we hired Kim. And I feel like her and I started this  
9 journey together. We had great staff.

10 Come to find out, you know, we're -- we don't  
11 have that much money as we thought. We're -- we -- we  
12 finally are getting our grants out that were committed to  
13 communities. And I know that many are ending and that  
14 tears at my heart because I'm on that side. I run a  
15 nonprofit. However, you know, the work's going to go on  
16 and, in my heart, I know it's the work -- we're moving in  
17 the right direction.

18 The homeless issue is huge. I look forward to  
19 working with Best Start in some of your communities in my  
20 role as a police commissioner because public safety is  
21 really, really important. And now that I'm on this side,  
22 I get it. It doesn't have to be the way it's perceived.  
23 There's better ways to do it.

24 And then I was going to end with, I think where  
25 it touches my heart, as you know. The organization's

1 going to be here. It's going to be go on, but it's the  
2 people that make this organization and I think when --  
3 although I was ready -- I knew I was going to move on  
4 eventually in December, maybe, maybe not. Well, I'm ready  
5 for that. I'm really busy. But when the time finally  
6 came, I said, why am I so sad. And the sadness really  
7 comes from the relationships I built here and in the  
8 community and watching my peers work really hard to get  
9 these services out to the families that I care about.

10 So thank you.

11 (Applause)

12 MS. BELSHE: Let's have a photograph, seriously,  
13 the commission. Can the commissioners come up, given that  
14 heartfelt comment. Come on.

15 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: Thank you all very much.  
16 We'll move to the next item on the agenda, Item 5, which  
17 is an action item and relates to Project DULCE.

18 Ms. Munoz. Ready, set, go.

19 MS. MUNOZ: Thank you. Good afternoon,  
20 commissioners, staff, and guest.

21 I'm very happy to be here today to share with you  
22 a strategic plan implementation update on Project DULCE.  
23 I wanted to start by first calling your attention to the  
24 staff's recommendation that are included in the end of the  
25 Power Point and outlined in your materials. I will then

1 provide an overview of Project DULCE and its alignment to  
2 our strategic plan. And then I'll speak about a timely  
3 opportunity and strategic partnerships to begin the  
4 implementation of Project DULCE. Lastly, we'll review the  
5 commission actions that need to happen in order for to  
6 us implement the project.

7 So first I want to take us back and review a --  
8 review some key areas of our strategic plan. We said that  
9 our approach would be to not go at it alone. So Project  
10 DULCE builds partnerships and comes with funding for the  
11 leveraging opportunity. It puts parents at the center by  
12 promoting the protective factors which we all know are  
13 conditions and attributes in individual families and  
14 communities that help people deal more effectively with  
15 life stressors. The program can provide evidence and data  
16 needed to advance policy and systems change. And in  
17 addition in the families outcome area objectives and  
18 strategies, we said that we wanted to improve the capacity  
19 of ECE and health related providers to engage parents in  
20 supporting their child's development. And our strategy  
21 would be to pilot and promote the scaling of  
22 evidence-based parent engagement models that increase the  
23 family protective factors. Therefore, Project DULCE is an  
24 identified component of our strategic plan.

25 So you may recall some of the information that I

1 will share with you today from a presentation that the  
2 board received last June from Dr. Bob Sege who is the  
3 project founder at the Boston Medical Center and from my  
4 presentation last month at the special -- the special  
5 meeting of the board of commissioners.

6 So Project DULCE is an evidence-based parent  
7 engagement program embedded in a pediatric care setting  
8 that aims to provide additional services and resources to  
9 infants and their families to address nonhealth related  
10 stressors that may be impacting the child's overall  
11 health, so hence it increases the protective factors.

12 The program involves a triad of partners to  
13 provide support and implement the program. There is a  
14 health clinic lead, a law firm lead, which together are  
15 known as the medical/legal partnerships or MLPs, and an  
16 early childhood system leads which convenes the partners  
17 and coordinates the project.

18 The program adapts and combines elements of two  
19 existing models: The healthy steps and the medical/legal  
20 partnership. So the family specialist is trained in the  
21 evidence-based healthy steps child development curriculum  
22 and adds a professional knowledge of child development to  
23 the child's pediatric primary care team.

24 The family specialist -- the program is then  
25 offered universally to families receiving pediatric care

1 during the routine well-baby visits for the infant's first  
2 six months of life. And they provide parental support and  
3 information on developmental milestones giving parents of  
4 newborns -- newborns confidence in their capacity to be  
5 attuned to their child's needs.

6 The family specialist is also trained by the  
7 legal partner to identify legal and social needs that may  
8 affect the child's health and development and they're  
9 trained to either take action by helping the family  
10 advocate for themselves or referring them to other  
11 resources. And if needed, the legal partner steps into  
12 support the families, providing legal advice,  
13 consultation, and representation to address the family's  
14 civil needs -- civil legal needs.

15 So I've already spoken to some of the items in  
16 this slide, but I just wanted to highlight that a  
17 randomized control trial conducted in Boston showed  
18 significant results in the infants that received the  
19 prevention services. They were more likely to have  
20 completed their six-month immunization schedule by the  
21 time they were seven months. They were more likely to  
22 have five or more routine preventive care visits by the  
23 time they were one year old. They were less likely to  
24 have visited the emergency department by the age of six  
25 months. And they also -- and the results also showed that

1 intervention accelerated access to concrete services.

2 So here's the opportunity that we're bringing for  
3 your approval today. The Center for the Study of Social  
4 Policy, or CSSP, contacted First 5 LA and offered the  
5 opportunity to participate in the replication design of  
6 Project DULCE and have included up to 115,000 for up --  
7 for three years. CSSP's commitment allows us to leverage  
8 an unexpected \$345,000 match for this project. The  
9 opportunity engages the triad of partners mentioned  
10 earlier in the presentation with First 5 LA as -- in the  
11 role of the early childhood systems lead.

12 We have the opportunity to represent five  
13 jurisdictions across the country to launch the expansion  
14 of this project. The new sites are bicoastal. There's  
15 one in Vermont, one in Florida, and there are three in  
16 California, one in Orange County, Alameda county, and LA  
17 county. All of the systems lead in California are First 5  
18 commissions.

19 So the partners in the five jurisdictions will  
20 revisit the original programmatic component -- components  
21 that make adjustments as needed to increase programmatic  
22 quality and the applicability of the diverse geographic  
23 service environments. Therefore partners will be able to  
24 provide programmatic input while the program is being  
25 implemented, modified, then tested. For example, in the

1 pilot, the basic needs addressed by the MLP focused on  
2 food, housing, and energy insecurity. So the replication  
3 process will allow for revisiting these priorities to  
4 ensure that they meet the needs of the new jurisdiction.

5 The opportunity to participate in the replication  
6 design of Project DULCE is significant for First 5 LA for  
7 several reasons. First, through this partnership we are  
8 informing the health care field and aiming to build a  
9 lasting foundation for promoting and supporting the  
10 protective factors. It provides the opportunity for LA  
11 county to join other First 5 commissions and national  
12 partners in redesigning, implementing, testing, and  
13 expanding a preventive pediatric care practice change  
14 model across diverse geographic environments and  
15 communities. It brings training, technical assistance,  
16 and ongoing support to the partners while also providing  
17 learning and leadership opportunities for First 5 LA. It  
18 leverages funds from CSSP and it engages partners to  
19 commit to the success of the project.

20 So I like to add that, by approving the strategic  
21 plan, the board endorsed cost projections for -- that  
22 allow for expansion for up to five clinics so that we have  
23 the option to expand the project for five sites. And this  
24 expansion creates an opportunity to capitalize on  
25 learnings and gather enough information to support policy

1 and advocacy efforts for long-term sustainability and  
2 broader expansion. This project also provides the  
3 opportunity to actively examine the relationship between  
4 this program and universal targeted home visiting models.

5 So as a reminder, the families outcome area  
6 emphasizes a research and development approach to  
7 investing in direct services. So the opportunity to  
8 implement and learn about multiple models and their  
9 modalities will enhance First 5 LA's ability to make sound  
10 program modifications, identify effective practices, and  
11 advocate further scaling.

12 So the replication plan in Los Angeles involved  
13 identifying partners. In order to leverage funds from  
14 CSSP, participate in the redesign and pilot phase, meet  
15 the implementation timeline, and serve the targeted number  
16 of infants proposed by CSSP, First 5 LA needed to identify  
17 partners that had both an existing MLP and that served  
18 three to 500 infants annually. This allows the program to  
19 be offered universally at site but considers missed or  
20 dropped clients and it's still a manageable case load for  
21 one family specialist.

22 So First 5 LA utilized the National Center for  
23 Medical/Legal Partnerships and the 2014 offices statewide  
24 health planning and development data. And this search  
25 yielded two MLPs in LA county. That's the Greatest Long

1 Beach community MLP and the Neighborhood Legal Services of  
2 Los Angeles Medical/Legal Community Partnership. These  
3 two MLPs partner with three clinics that have the capacity  
4 to implement the model.

5 So as such, we're bringing forth a justification  
6 request to enter into strategic partnerships that's to  
7 execute the contracts with unique entities that can  
8 deliver particular services that do not follow our  
9 traditional procurement process. With the Children's  
10 Clinic in Long Beach, Northeast Valley Health Corporation  
11 in Sun Valley, Saint John's Well Child and Family Center  
12 in Compton, based on the justification that all three  
13 clinics -- the three clinics' ability to implement the  
14 Project DULCE, which is a board-endorsed program, more  
15 expeditiously than resources provided through a  
16 competitive solicitation, the opportunity to leverage  
17 First 5 LA funds to produce additional funding for the  
18 program, and the program's alignment with the adopted  
19 strategic plan.

20 So moving on to the financials. This is a  
21 snapshot of the first year of implementation. I know this  
22 slide has a lot of numbers. So I'll do my best to try to  
23 simplify the information. So first, the annual budget for  
24 each clinic is estimated to be about 150,000 per year  
25 those this will be adjusted as we learn more about the

1 program and the implementation. But what you see in front  
2 of you is the total amount for a 17-month contract.  
3 That's from February of 2016 through June 30th of 2017,  
4 which -- which is about 212,000 per clinic. So we know  
5 that CCSP is providing 115,000 for the first year. So  
6 First 5 LA's investment to carry the program to through  
7 June of 2017 for the three clinics is 521,000.

8 As you may recall, the board endorsed five years  
9 -- a five-year cost projection of 16.5 million to pilot  
10 parent engagement programs, and this is well within that  
11 projection.

12 Next, I want to speak to our Governance Guideline  
13 Number 5 and Number 6, which address sustainability and  
14 leveraging. This project reflects First 5 LA's intent to  
15 invest through partnership. CSSP has committed a 115,000  
16 annually for three years for a total of 345 unexpected  
17 leveraging dollars. CSSP's commitment also includes  
18 training, technical assistance, and ongoing support on  
19 evaluation and sustainability efforts. So in the early  
20 stages of the contracts, the clinics will collaborate with  
21 CSSP and First 5 LA to develop sustainability strategies,  
22 such as conducting a funding landscape analysis,  
23 identifying potential sustainability targets, and  
24 conducting evaluation activities that would yield data to  
25 advocate for policy changes.

1           The exciting part about this is that it will be  
2 done with all of the jurisdictions so that everyone can  
3 learn from one another and capitalize on the advantage of  
4 actually having three jurisdictions in California. So  
5 we'll have the strength in numbers.

6           As I mentioned earlier, our strategic plan calls  
7 for piloting based -- evidence-based models with the  
8 intent to demonstrate results that can impact replication  
9 and scaleability in the future. So the scaleability and  
10 replication beyond our investment will depend on the  
11 results and the funding landscape. Our objective is to  
12 identify practice change elements with low or no cost  
13 sustainability and assess the feasibility and scope of  
14 medical reimbursement and other public funding streams  
15 such as targeted care management, care coordination  
16 through the federally qualified health care, and also the  
17 return on investment from the doctors spending less time  
18 taking care of patient needs that can be addressed by the  
19 family specialist so they can see more patients and then  
20 that can be -- that revenue can be used to invest back  
21 into the practice.

22           So the next steps. The implementation approach  
23 is that all five jurisdictions will implement the program  
24 -- the core program component and meet to make a  
25 programmatic -- critical programmatic decision that will

1 impact the design evaluation and sustainability. The  
2 program implementation and service delivery is scheduled  
3 to begin May of this year and continue through June 30th  
4 of 2020, which is the length of our strategic plan. The  
5 partners are expected to serve about 200 families  
6 annually.

7 And I'd just like to add that, at this moment,  
8 we're capitalizing on the existing MLPs in LA county, but  
9 it is our intent to promote and support the development of  
10 more MLPs in LA county so that we can scale up to the five  
11 clinics that the board has endorsed.

12 So before you today we have the staff's  
13 recommendations to get the program off the ground and we  
14 are requesting approval to receive funds in the amount of  
15 115,000 from the Center of Study of Social Policy, which  
16 includes approving resolution 2016-1. We are asking for  
17 approval to execute a contract with CSSP to implement  
18 Project DULCE in LA county. And we're asking for approval  
19 in the strategic partnerships with the following clinics  
20 and for approval to execute those contracts. And that's  
21 with the Children's Clinic in Long Beach, Northeast Valley  
22 Health Corporation in Sun Valley, and Saint John's Well  
23 Child and Family Center in Compton.

24 So before I open it up for questions, I really  
25 like to thank the full team that made all of this

1 possible, and that's Jocelyn Ramirez in our Best Start  
2 communities. We have Young Lee in program development.  
3 Barb and Teresa have been fabulous leaders. And of  
4 course, our finance and contracts departments have been  
5 really great in lending their expertise to get all of this  
6 in order for you.

7 Thank you.

8 MS. BELSHE: Mabel, who's this?

9 MS. MUNOZ: This is Lucas. He just turned ten  
10 months old last week and we saw a tooth last night. I was  
11 getting worried.

12 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: Thank you very much.

13 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: Mabel, thank you for the  
14 presentation. And, of course, I would support accepting  
15 \$115,000. That's without question.

16 The piece I want to talk about -- and if I  
17 remember correctly, the model in Boston did not include  
18 foster care children. And I had said this earlier -- that  
19 it required intact families. And I suggested earlier on  
20 that we perhaps look at especially families who are  
21 earmarked for reunification. It may not be appropriate  
22 for families who've just been separated from their infants  
23 or a mom who's been separate. But when you look at  
24 reunification, this program could perhaps speed up the  
25 reunification process and then definitely would develop

1 another partnership that we could establish with DCFS. So  
2 I don't know but what our model looks like and whether or  
3 not we'll be doing an exact replication of what they did  
4 in Boston, but I remember that the -- the model in Boston  
5 didn't include children in foster care and a requirement  
6 that it was that the family be intact. So I -- I just  
7 hope that we look at having some of those families who are  
8 earmarked for reunification as a part of our demographic.

9 MS. MUNOZ: Yeah. So the initial -- like I said,  
10 the initial phases of the project, the projects will be  
11 implemented with the core components that we saw in  
12 Boston, but there is opportunity to modify the existing  
13 program model to fit the needs of the new site. So I  
14 think between all three clinics that are implementing the  
15 program in LA county, if that's a need and we'll  
16 definitely make sure because First 5 LA is at the table at  
17 those meetings to bring that forward.

18 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: Thank you.

19 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: Thank you. Any other comments  
20 or questions?

21 Nancy.

22 COMMISSIONER AU: I take it, since you  
23 acknowledge Barbara as well as I forget the Best Start  
24 person, that one of the challenges as a commissioner and  
25 coming from more of a community perspective is always the

1 -- the ability for us to connect the various programs and  
2 projects that we have in the community. And this is one  
3 already I'm seeing an opportunity in terms of Welcome Baby  
4 and the home visitation component and as well as the Best  
5 Start effort in terms of mobilizing community to also be a  
6 factor as a resource for these families as well because,  
7 again, I'm viewing it in terms of a program that works  
8 with families on a rather intensive basis initially, but  
9 at some point in time, they'll be transitioning and  
10 becoming much more self-sufficient but may need the  
11 support of neighborhoods and communities in order for them  
12 to continue their -- the -- having a sense of being  
13 supported in -- in their raising of their children.

14 So this is a sort of long-winded question, but  
15 have you grappled with how that connection is going to  
16 occur and -- and the sustainability of -- of supporting  
17 families beyond this initial impact?

18 MS. MUNOZ: I'm going to Ask barb to come and  
19 join me on this question. She has more knowledge on the  
20 connection.

21 MS. DUBRANSKY: I want to thank Mabel because you  
22 see cute little Lucas. Mabel arrived and there was a pile  
23 of information on her desk about Project DULCE. And I  
24 said, you got a couple of weeks and then we'll talk to the  
25 board about it. So I want to thank Mabel for all she's

1 piled into her brain on this.

2 Yes. So the family specialist -- I would  
3 actually say, so the MLP allows them to deal with the  
4 self-sufficiency question that you raise in a very  
5 concrete way. It's making sure that whatever the barriers  
6 are to getting what are their entitled benefits that we're  
7 going to get past those barriers. So that has a huge  
8 impact. And that's where the strongest results were in  
9 their randomized control trial.

10 But then there's also the child development  
11 curriculum. And included in that as is in most child  
12 development curricula is, how do you build a network  
13 around yourself as a family to support your family. So  
14 that's part of what they'll discuss and making whatever  
15 linkages they need to do for that.

16 And you also mentioned Jocelyn's role. Jocelyn  
17 is helping us to liaison with the other members of the  
18 Best Start communities department so the partnerships are  
19 aware of what's going on with Project DULCE and we can  
20 continue make linkages there. So they're aware of the  
21 program and hold the program accountable for quality.

22 COMMISSIONER AU: Which also brings up another  
23 piece when we talk about the focus on intensive home  
24 visitation, recalling also the Department of Public  
25 Health's nurse --

1           COMMISSIONER BOSTWICK: Nurse Family Partnership.

2           COMMISSIONER AU: -- Nurse Family Partnership and  
3 where is there a connection as well.

4           MS. DUBRANSKY: Well, for Nurse Family  
5 partnership, this program won't be able to make referrals  
6 because it doesn't meet families -- it doesn't engage with  
7 families until the child's born. In order to refer to  
8 Nurse Family Partnership, have you to engage with the  
9 family when the mother's pregnant. But we do that in  
10 Welcome Baby when possible. When we engage with a mother  
11 early enough in her pregnancy that she meets the  
12 eligibility requirement, we make the referral. This  
13 program just won't engage with the families in time for  
14 that. And we're working with the county on our  
15 connections with Welcome Baby.

16           SUPERVISOR KUEHL: Suzanne.

17           COMMISSIONER BOSTWICK: Just a real clarifying  
18 question about evaluation. Who's actually going to be  
19 doing the evaluation piece of this because? I see that  
20 CSSP is going to be doing training and technical  
21 assistance, but I wasn't clear on that.

22           MS. DUBRANSKY: CSSP has already engaged with  
23 Chapin Hall of Chicago to do the evaluation, the overall  
24 evaluation. We may also be contributing components as  
25 well.

1           COMMISSIONER BOSTWICK: Great. So that means  
2 that all the three or eventually five clinics are going to  
3 be collecting a lot of the same data. Perfect. Thank  
4 you.

5           SUPERVISOR KUEHL: Any other questions or  
6 comments?

7           Marlene.

8           COMMISSIONER ZEPEDA: Yes. Have I -- is this on?  
9 I had that same question about the evaluation. I was  
10 concerned about that because you had mentioned, Mabel,  
11 that you will be making modifications and -- and you're  
12 going to need universal aspects as well as community  
13 specific aspects in the evaluation. And my assumption is  
14 that these programs already are primed to go, they're not  
15 going to need startup time. Is that correct?

16          MS. MUNOZ: They're going to start on service  
17 delivery in May. But there's a couple of training then  
18 meetings where we're all coming together to start those  
19 kinds of decisions and we're actually bringing our  
20 evaluation team along though so that they're able to see  
21 from the beginning -- from the early beginnings of  
22 implementation what the projects are doing across all five  
23 jurisdictions and within Los Angeles.

24          COMMISSIONER ZEPEDA: But these projects are  
25 primed to go? I mean, they don't need time to start up,

1 like hire personnel, get them trained?

2 MS. MUNOZ: Right. And between February and May,  
3 that's when that's happening.

4 COMMISSIONER ZEPEDA: Okay. Thank you.

5 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: Judy.

6 MS. ABDO: I'm looking forward -- do you have a  
7 plan for how to expand this to other neighborhoods, other  
8 clinics so that we can offer much more of the county?

9 MS. MUNOZ: So our initial projections allowed  
10 for up to five clinics so that we can demonstrate the  
11 results and then hope for a broader expansion through  
12 policy and systems change. But not necessarily for us to  
13 continue to fund beyond those five pilot sites.

14 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: But the evaluation often helps  
15 us scale up.

16 MS. ABDO: Do you see that happening in 2020 or  
17 earlier than that?

18 MS. MUNOZ: We hope earlier, but we're giving  
19 ourselves at least five years.

20 MS. DUBRANSKY: The model will continue to be  
21 modified through this October. So even though we're  
22 beginning services, we're modifying. They're -- that's  
23 why we want to start providing services so we can see what  
24 are the problems, what's not working about the programs in  
25 these jurisdictions, so that we can make those changes.

1 And then once the model gets solidified, the need to  
2 implement for a period of time to get their quality level  
3 up. And during that time, we'll be devising what the  
4 evaluation should look like and execute it when the  
5 program's at a high level of quality so that we get the  
6 best possible results and utilize those results to  
7 demonstrate, for example, some of the potential strategies  
8 that Mabel mentioned. So, for example, if we can prove  
9 that a doctor is spending less time with the patient and  
10 they're able to see more patients, then we can -- we can  
11 bring that argument to the additional clinics in these  
12 networks and others and say, this is actually a cost  
13 savings to you to have this program.

14 So we'll be looking at what are the research  
15 questions that drive potential funding mechanisms for the  
16 future and then we utilize that information to promote  
17 expansion by clinics.

18 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: Any other question or  
19 comments?

20 Nancy.

21 COMMISSIONER AU: Yes. My apologies. I wasn't  
22 able to attend the program planning probably committee  
23 meeting where I probably would get these questions asked  
24 and answered. But when you talk about evaluation and --  
25 and the -- one of the indicators you're looking at is the

1 length of time the physician will be spending with a  
2 patient. I -- I -- it just triggered an alarm for me  
3 because that may not be the best indicator because -- in  
4 terms of cost effectiveness because if you're talking  
5 about long-term impact, what you're looking for is -- is  
6 quality of time that a physician would spend with a child  
7 so then, down the road, there would be less health issues  
8 for the child. Do you see --

9 MS. DUBRANSKY: This wouldn't change the health  
10 related indicators that the doctor is hitting in his  
11 visits. What's happening is doctors spend time talking to  
12 a family about, I may be -- you know, whatever the ailment  
13 is happening. There's the child has asthma, if they had  
14 an older child. And instead of them talking to them  
15 about, here's my living conditions. If that is resolved  
16 ahead of time, it's something that, for his salary and the  
17 amount of what his time is worth, it's actually not cost  
18 effective for him to cover that particular topic with  
19 families. So you want the family specialist to do that,  
20 so that, when he's with them, he's adjusting the areas I  
21 think you're referring to, which is the child's health  
22 directly and hopefully anticipatory guidance on that  
23 child's development, which is important to us at First 5.

24 COMMISSIONER AU: So within this project when you  
25 talk about evaluation and since it is a pilot project,

1 then there's still conversation about what indicators are  
2 going to be tracked in terms of determining what is  
3 successful and what is cost effective and all of that.

4 MS. DUBRANSKY: Exactly.

5 COMMISSIONER AU: So it's still a fluid situation  
6 is what you're telling -- what I'm getting.

7 MR. DUBRANSKY. And we're trying to make sure  
8 that the doctor is spending the time with the family on  
9 what he's uniquely trained for and not spending that time  
10 on things that someone who is -- could do more cost  
11 effectively because they don't have the same salary range  
12 that he has and are trained to do it very well.

13 COMMISSIONER AU: Another question that was  
14 really very quick is the pilot clinics, are they all  
15 located in a Best Start community?

16 MS. DUBRANSKY: So the Long Beach and Compton,  
17 yes. The one in the Northeast Valley is near two of them,  
18 so not exactly.

19 COMMISSIONER AU: Okay. Thank you.

20 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: Any other question or  
21 comments?

22 All right. The three items that comprise this  
23 item for approval were presented and I think you have them  
24 in front of you as well. Do I have a motion to approve  
25 this item?

1 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: So moved.

2 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: Thank you. Do I have a  
3 second?

4 COMMISSIONER AU: Second.

5 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: Moved and seconded. Is there  
6 any objection to approving the three items in this item?

7 All right. Without objection then, they're  
8 approved.

9 Let us move then to Number 6, which is not an  
10 action item. It's a presentation item information. We  
11 will be coming back to this item in the March meeting for  
12 potential action. So let us have the presentation on Item  
13 6.

14 MS. FICEK: All right. Thank you.

15 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: Thank you.

16 MS. FICEK: Well, good afternoon, commissioners.  
17 Today staff is going to be presenting our annual expiring  
18 initiatives review and board report process. And we're  
19 going to start today's presentation. And just a reminder,  
20 today is about the process itself, how First 5 LA reviews  
21 each of our expiring service related legacy investments.  
22 So we will first remind you of its purpose and then we're  
23 next going to go over considerations that staff utilized  
24 to review each investment, and then we're going to talk  
25 about which First 5 LA legacy investments will be reviewed

1 this spring, which will include a brief overview of those  
2 investments, and then the deeper dive into each of those  
3 investments will take place later this month at our  
4 program and planning committee meeting. And then we're  
5 going to close with next steps.

6 So many of you have heard this presentation  
7 before, perhaps even several times. As I just noted, it  
8 is an annual presentation staff provides to the board.  
9 However, a few of you are new, so you may -- this may be  
10 brand new information for you. So for those of you  
11 hearing it for the first time, let me provide some  
12 background or context.

13 Serving as the foundation of the expiring  
14 initiatives review and board report process, our -- our  
15 board approved governance guidelines, in particular  
16 Guideline Number 7, which states, all First 5 LA  
17 multiyear service related investments will end. And that  
18 expiration date is based on the time stated in either the  
19 original allocation or in the grant award. Guideline  
20 Number 7 also requires an annual report to the board  
21 regarding expiring initiatives, thus the presentation  
22 today.

23 So starting with the purpose, the review and  
24 board report process is noted here. That is to  
25 successfully close out and capture lessons learned from

1 our expiring initiatives. And that learning can be used  
2 to inform our new work internally and when possible to be  
3 share with others to inform the field.

4 The -- in order to do that, to capture those  
5 lessons learned and consistent with last year's process,  
6 the following components are considered. So, first, we  
7 look at was the initiative time limited or did it have a  
8 capacity building focus. We also look at, did the  
9 initiative -- what was the success of the initiative in  
10 completing its intended deliverables and achieving its  
11 outcomes. Then we also look at initiatives ability to  
12 achieve impact on a countywide or population level.

13 The review process also considers the following:  
14 Whether the initiative has the clear, viable  
15 sustainability plan. Whether the initiative aligns with  
16 our 2015-2020 strategic plan, and that's not just at the  
17 outcome level, but also at the strategy and investment  
18 guideline level. And then finally, we look at, what's  
19 going on, has there been any relevant changes in the  
20 current landscape or in the environmental context of that  
21 investment.

22 As you will recall, in very rare occasions staff  
23 has completed the review process and our report back to  
24 the board has included a recommendation to waive  
25 Governance Guideline Number 7 and continue an investment

1 for a specific time frame. In each of those rare  
2 occasions, it has been when one of those last three  
3 considerations have been met. So there was either a clear  
4 viable sustainability opportunity, there was potential  
5 alignment with the strategic plan, or something important  
6 was happening in the environmental context of that  
7 investment.

8 So I'm going to provide an example for each one  
9 of those. Our PFF, Partnerships For Family, investment it  
10 did have a clear viable sustainability plan with the  
11 Department of Children and Family Services committing to  
12 take over that investment. And because of that, the board  
13 approved to continue funding that investment for six  
14 months until DCFS was able to fully fund it in January of  
15 2015.

16 As for alignment with our new strategic plan, you  
17 might recall that last year staff recommended to continue  
18 funding for an additional year through June of this year,  
19 2006 of our 211 information resource and referral  
20 contract. We had identified that there was potential  
21 alignment of 211's IR and R -- current IR and R work to  
22 our new work related to IR and R, but we needed to be  
23 further along in implementation of our strategic plan in  
24 order to determine the degree of that alignment.

25 And then lastly also in 2015, there were

1 significant changes in the field of children's health  
2 insurance coverage when Medi-Cal was expanded to cover  
3 undocumented children. As a result of that important  
4 milestone, staff recommended an extension of our healthy  
5 kids contract with LA Care Health Plan until the summer of  
6 2016, this year, when Medi-Cal will be ready to accept and  
7 capable -- be capable and ready to accept current eligible  
8 healthy kids members.

9 So another way to highlight this infrequency of  
10 these events is also to look at numbers. So of the 25  
11 initiatives that have expired in the last three years, and  
12 that is since we've had governance guidelines in place,  
13 staff has come back to the board to request a waiver for  
14 five investments only.

15 So this spring the expiring initiatives review  
16 process will be looking at the following investments due  
17 to their upcoming end dates. These include our permanent  
18 supportive housing investment and our information resource  
19 and referral initiative, which includes our contract with  
20 211 LA county. Staff will also be reviewing two  
21 investments that end next year in December of 2017. Those  
22 include early identification and intervention, autism and  
23 other developmental delays. That's also known as First  
24 Connections Initiative, and PCIT, which stands for Parent  
25 Child Interaction Therapy.

1           The next two slides are going to go into  
2 additional details on each these investments, again  
3 providing information on a high level. Since the purpose  
4 of today is really to talk about the expiring initiatives  
5 review process, later in the month at February program and  
6 planning committee, we plan on digging deeper into each  
7 investment.

8           So permanent supportive housing, also often  
9 called PSH. These -- this initiative was unique in that  
10 all funds were advanced to LA County Community Development  
11 Commission, also known as the CDC, to serve as the lead  
12 contractor. The total allocation was 35 million. And it  
13 does include two distinct programs: Rental assistance,  
14 which utilizes a rapid rehousing approach to best serve  
15 families. And that will end in June of this year, 2016.  
16 And a capitol development program, which will end in  
17 November of 2007.

18           As many -- as many of you know and as noted by  
19 Supervisor Kuehl in her opening remarks, there is a lot of  
20 activity happening right now focused on housing and  
21 homeless, not only on the local level with the  
22 unprecedented action taken by our board of supervisors on  
23 Tuesday with the approval of a very extensive  
24 collaborative homeless plan for the region, but also this  
25 week on the federal level, as Kim mentioned also in her

1 opening comments, with President Obama's proposed budget  
2 being released seeking \$11 billion in funding for homeless  
3 families.

4 So there are a lot of moving parts around  
5 homeless right now. Staff will be highlighting the latest  
6 -- I think this speaks to your comment, Commissioner Curry  
7 -- the latest with all of those moving parts and how this  
8 changing landscape then aligns and/or impacts our  
9 permanent supportive housing investment. And, again, that  
10 will take place at program and planning committee meeting  
11 in two weeks.

12 Next, information resource and referral. Again,  
13 this is our contract LA county -- 211 LA county. This is  
14 \$1.2 million allocation. The scheduled end date is this  
15 June of 2016, and the purpose of the initiative is noted  
16 there, providing residents with integrated, coordinated  
17 comprehensive information of course for an individual in  
18 our target population.

19 Early identification. Again, that's our  
20 investment known as First Connections. This was a \$2.5  
21 million allocation. This is over a three-year period that  
22 will be ending in April of 2017. The initiative includes  
23 seven contracts with six community-based organization and  
24 then a one training and TA provider. PCIT, Parent Child  
25 Interaction Therapy, is a \$20 million allocation that was

1 over a five-year period. It is scheduled to end in  
2 October of 2017 with the goal being countywide trainings  
3 to mental health service providers to establish a  
4 workforce trained in PICT to better serve children ages  
5 two to five.

6 The initiative is implemented via two contracts,  
7 one with LA County Department of Mental Health as the  
8 lead, and with UC Davis to provide training for that  
9 project.

10 First 5 LA staff is completing the review process  
11 for each of the four investments I just highlighted and we  
12 will be presenting those findings again at the February  
13 25th program and planning committee meeting. And if  
14 applicable, will be bringing back to the board in March  
15 for action.

16 One additional important updated I wanted to note  
17 is regarding the work staff puts into developing and  
18 refining our communication support for both First 5 LA  
19 staff, in particular, the program officers overseeing an  
20 expiring initiative, as well as communications to our  
21 contractors and grantees. Each year, we reflect on what  
22 worked, what didn't, not only for the process itself, but  
23 also for how we communicate the closing of an investment  
24 in a transparent and responsible way. And of course that  
25 effort is very much supported and guided by our colleagues

1 in marketing and communications.

2 And that is really the end of the presentation so  
3 we can open it up for comments and questions.

4 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: Thank you. Comments or  
5 question on the presentation? Remember, as indicated,  
6 this is more about the process to make sure that we  
7 understand it or understand it again or understand it for  
8 the fifth time, depending on how long you've been here.  
9 And that the specifics will go to P and P. They will  
10 comment and perhaps you know, make suggestions and bring  
11 them to the board at the March meeting.

12 But any questions on the presentation?

13 All right. Seeing none. Any other comments?

14 MS. FICEK: Can I make one last comment to follow  
15 Mabel's lead. I should do a shout out and thank. I'm  
16 only the lucky messenger. I only get to present and speak  
17 to you guys. That's it. There is an amazing team that  
18 supports the expiring initiative process, and the members  
19 include Kia Tiff from our grants management department,  
20 Jennifer Eckhart from contracts compliance, Barbara  
21 Dubransky from program development, Lee Worbell from  
22 program development, Armando Jimenez from research and  
23 evaluation, and Stacy Lee from our office of strategic  
24 planning.

25 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: Thanks to them and thanks very

1 much to you for the presentation.

2 All right. Let's see. I believe that it's time  
3 for a break. Ten minutes.

4 (A brief break.)

5 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: Thank you so much. How's our  
6 court reporter doing? Good. Excellent. We pretend that  
7 the break is only for the court reporter to go like this.

8 All right. Thank you. Welcome back. Where's  
9 Mr. Ortega? I wanted to talk about his tie. I believe  
10 that's an inside joke.

11 All right. We are now on Item Number 8, which is  
12 an update about federal items, legislative matters, et  
13 cetera. So let's go to that.

14 MS. CHARNOFSKY: Excellent. Hello,  
15 commissioners. My name is Tessa Charnofsky. For some of  
16 you, this is the first time you are meeting our federal  
17 lobbyists, The Raben Group. I'll be introducing you to  
18 them and they will review our work together over the past  
19 year, which they typically do once per year, and they will  
20 highlight this year's federal landscape and opportunities  
21 to advance our policies priorities in DC.

22 Before they begin their, presentation, however, I  
23 wanted to provide some background in context. As we all  
24 know, First 5 LA is a child advocacy organization which  
25 understands the importance of policy and advocacy to

1 advance our goals. Given this orientation, we have  
2 federal and state advocates, policy agendas, and boots on  
3 the ground in our state and federal capitols. We are  
4 currently the only commission -- First 5 commission that  
5 has made this investment though a number of other First 5  
6 commissions are certainly interested in and engaged in  
7 policy work. It's important to note that First 5  
8 California has indicated that they are interested in  
9 joining us as partners in our federal work in this coming  
10 fiscal year. And we look forward to returning to the  
11 commission soon to discuss what this partnership with  
12 First 5 California on the new federal contract might look  
13 like.

14 Today's discussion, of course, is focused on  
15 federal policy. And in March, you will hear from our  
16 state advocates, California Strategies, on the state  
17 landscape, which will include a review of the Governor's  
18 budget and our work with our partners to advance our  
19 policy goals.

20 At the March program and planning committee  
21 meeting, we will review our draft legislative agenda. And  
22 that agenda will be brought to the commission in April for  
23 a vote which, we have done every year.

24 Please know that commissioner participation and  
25 contribution to our advocacy work is very important to us.

1 We hope that you will be engaged in this discussion today  
2 and you will participate in upcoming conversations and  
3 opportunities to take action as they arise.

4 This is -- I have to move this. I was supposed  
5 to talk the whole time with that on there. See the pretty  
6 pictures of the cherry blossoms?

7 MR. PACKER: Not yet though.

8 MS. CHARNOFSKY: This is our fourth year working  
9 with federal lobbyists. We worked with a different firm  
10 our first year and we've been with The Raben Group for  
11 three years. We are required to go out to bid for the  
12 next fiscal year, and the RFQ will be released in March.

13 And, finally, I wanted to say that we have been  
14 fortunate to work with Joel Packer of The Raben Group.  
15 He's been with the firm for half a dozen years and he's  
16 worked for over 40 years in the education field, and he's  
17 retiring. He's retiring in March, which is one of the  
18 reasons we're bringing The Raben Group here today instead  
19 of in May, which is what we have done in the past. And we  
20 have enjoyed and been blessed to have his insight and  
21 support on federal policy work.

22 And so I bring you Joel Packer and team.

23 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: Thank you. And welcome.

24 MR. PACKER: Thanks.

25 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: Also, we had a vote in

1 executive session, and we're not allowing you to retire.

2 MR. PACKER: Thank you, Tessa.

3 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: Just kidding. I know it  
4 wasn't agendized.

5 MR. PACKER: Thanks, Tessa. Before I start, let  
6 me acknowledge the other members of our team who are  
7 sitting here. Sunil Mansukhani, Charna Martin. Charna  
8 works in our LA office here. And Anais Duran. So those  
9 are the rest our team.

10 So what I'm going to do today is sort of quickly  
11 review what we worked on sort of in the last year since we  
12 were here early in May and a little bit before that, talk  
13 about some of the opportunities and challenges we see  
14 coming up, and then talk a little bit about how some of  
15 the work we're doing aligns with some of the new  
16 initiatives in your strategic plan.

17 This sort of very wordy, detailed slide, I'm not  
18 going to read through it, but this is -- we put together  
19 almost three years ago, sort of short term, intermediate  
20 term, and long term goals and activities for us. And if  
21 you see, there's little check marks next to just about all  
22 of them showing we've accomplished pretty much most of the  
23 things we originally laid out and different details about  
24 engaging the Los Angeles congressional delegation,  
25 positioning First 5 as a trusted, valued advocate, and

1 organization in Washington, expanding funding for  
2 programs, things like that. So I just wanted to quickly  
3 demonstrate some of the things we've done.

4 So in terms of policy advocacy, before I go  
5 through this, I just want to say, so Congress is generally  
6 fairly -- as I'm sure you know, gridlocked and very  
7 partisan. But actually in three areas we've worked on for  
8 you, there's been fairly major bipartisan breakthroughs so  
9 it's an interest indication of some of the bipartisan  
10 support for early education programs. But, basically,  
11 what we've done is a variety of things. We did a lot of  
12 work focusing on the federal budget, because that's  
13 something that happens every year and influences all the  
14 programs. We did a lot of work on the Elementary and  
15 Secondary Education Act, ESCA, reauthorization,  
16 particularly trying to get preschool programs included and  
17 sort of infused throughout that law. We've been working  
18 on early Head Start and child care partnership grants and  
19 funding for that, and also the reauthorization of the  
20 Child Care Development Block Grant and its funding.

21 So in terms of ESCA, so that's the major federal  
22 elementary secondary education law. It's last iteration  
23 was called the No Child Left Behind Act, I'm sure most of  
24 you are familiar with. That law was supposed to have been  
25 reauthorized, as they call it, rewritten by Congress in

1 2007. It was passed -- it was passed last year so it was  
2 only eight years overdue. So Congress doesn't exactly  
3 work at a rapid pace. Basically, we were pretty  
4 successful. So the bill, first of all, passed  
5 overwhelming bipartisan basis when the President signed  
6 the bill which was in December. He said, it's a Christmas  
7 miracle Congress passed a bipartisan law. The law really  
8 recognizes and acknowledges the importance of early  
9 learning and preschool, sort of the continuum between that  
10 and K12.

11 So some of the key things in the law, so for the  
12 first time, again, early education provisions were written  
13 throughout different parts of the law. There's allowable  
14 uses of money under various programs, including Title I of  
15 ESCA, professional development, English language learners,  
16 charter schools, for preschool professional development of  
17 early educators, things like that.

18 There's a new version of the preschool  
19 development grant program. So there's a current program  
20 that funded \$250 million that's provided to grants to 18  
21 states. Unfortunately, California's not one of those 18  
22 states. But there's a new version of preschool  
23 development grants that's a little bit more focused on  
24 coordination of existing funding streams. And, hopefully,  
25 California will apply for that once it's funded. And

1 there's a new early -- there's a new literacy program that  
2 a piece of it is focused on -- focused on early literacy.  
3 15 percent of funds that states get there have to be spent  
4 on literacy programs for birth through kindergarten.

5 So I was actually privileged to be at bill  
6 signing when the President signed the bill. So that first  
7 picture is actually a picture of the bill with him all the  
8 pens ready for him to sign it. He signs each letter of  
9 his name with a different pen to give out to members of  
10 Congress. The bottom is him signing the bill with several  
11 member of Congress and some students and there's a teacher  
12 back there someplace.

13 So some of the things we did there was really  
14 worked a lot on advocating for these early literacy  
15 provisions. We worked closely with First 5 LA and the  
16 Public Health Foundation Enterprise and the Little By  
17 Little staff around trying to get included in their  
18 allowable uses of funding for literacy programs at WIC  
19 centers. We did a lot of meetings calls around that. We  
20 organized a coalition call with Senate committee staff  
21 after the law passed to talk about opportunities around  
22 implementation. We drafted several letters and press  
23 releases that Tessa helped get a variety of your partners  
24 at the LA and California levels to sign on, so we did a  
25 lot of sort of coalition work around that.

1           So ESCA, I'll just say quickly, a lot of issues  
2 now in implementation are really going to be at the state  
3 and local level. There's required state plans. There's  
4 required local plans, again, because a lot of the pieces  
5 of the law make as allowable but not required uses of  
6 funds for early childhood. So it's really up to some  
7 extent to the California Department of Education and LAUSD  
8 and other school districts how they choose to sort of use  
9 their funds so there's opportunities for us to work with  
10 you around that.

11           So in terms of federal funding, so every year  
12 there's a big fight around federal funding. It's the one  
13 thing Congress has to do every year, is pass funding for  
14 appropriations bills. So real quickly, because this sort  
15 of impacts what I'm going to say now and about the housing  
16 -- homeless program. Real quickly, there's two kinds of  
17 federal funding. There's what's called mandatory funding  
18 or entitlement funding. What that means is, when Congress  
19 passes certain laws and sets the eligibility and benefits,  
20 those dollars keep flowing out the door forever. So  
21 things like Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, SNAP  
22 formerly called food stamps, federal employee pensions,  
23 things like that. Congress doesn't, on a yearly basis,  
24 review that funding. It automatically happens unless  
25 Congress repeals or revises the laws. And that's about 70

1 percent of the federal budget is so-called mandatory  
2 funding.

3           The other third of budget is what's called  
4 discretionary funding. It's the exact opposite process.  
5 It means, unless Congress each year affirmatively  
6 appropriates money for whether it's Head Start or  
7 Department of Defense or the FBI or the Department of  
8 Education or HUD or all those things, that they're not  
9 funded. And if Congress doesn't pass appropriations  
10 bills, there's a government shutdown.

11           And the reason I point that out is we are -- the  
12 discretionary part of the budget is divided into two  
13 halves: Defense and then the part that has a terrible  
14 sounding name called nondefense discretionary, or NDD.  
15 That's really the most important thing for -- funding for  
16 these programs because they're in this pool of funding and  
17 there's a binding cap of how much money Congress can spend  
18 on that pool of funds.

19           We had that cap lowered from what was called the  
20 sequester cuts a few years ago. So last year, we had a  
21 big fight around the funding cap. And until we can get to  
22 -- before we can get to how much money Head Start gets  
23 versus CCDBG versus other things, we need to figure out  
24 how big that pot of money is. Last year, we started out  
25 with a sequester level for the NDD pot of money, and the

1 President said in his budget that he would want to raise  
2 that cap by \$37 billion, also raise the same amount for  
3 defense, and that he would veto any bills that didn't  
4 increase funding for nondefense, he would veto any bills  
5 that didn't create parity between defense and nondefense  
6 because the Republicans wanted to raise money just for  
7 defense and not for nondefense.

8 We started off the year with a freeze. The  
9 Republicans initially didn't agree and we initially were  
10 facing some cuts in these programs, things like that.  
11 But then after a long campaign, and we engaged in the  
12 campaign with a broad coalition of groups -- I cochair  
13 another coalition called NDD United, which I would say is  
14 not the name of British soccer team. It's a uber  
15 coalition of pretty much the whole domestic community,  
16 children's education, children's groups, education, law  
17 enforcement, environment, housing, health, et cetera.

18 We conducted this campaign called Raise The Cap.  
19 We actually made baseball caps that said, Raise The Caps,  
20 and gave them out to every member of Congress and people  
21 in the administration and had rallies and a variety of  
22 different activities. And, again, with the President's  
23 support and our friends in Congress, we were successful.  
24 Congress in October passed a bill to raise these caps and  
25 that then resulted in more money available to the

1 appropriations committee, which meant, at the end of the  
2 day, we ended up getting more money.

3 So, as you can see here, Head Start funding was  
4 increasing \$570 million. A chunk of that is going to be  
5 used to help Head Start centers to expand to a full school  
6 day and full school year-round programs. Part of it is  
7 going to be used to further expand the number of early  
8 Head Start child care partnerships.

9 The Child Care and Development Block Grant was  
10 increased \$326 million. So just to point out here, when  
11 Congress rewrote the Child Care Development Block Grant  
12 law in late 2014, they put in place several new health,  
13 safety, and quality requirements. Those are all good, but  
14 they're all going to cost money. Unless there's  
15 additionally money provided by Congress, child care  
16 providers will have to reduce slots. So it's been a big  
17 priority. We put a lot of work into trying to get that  
18 increased. The President's budget last year originally  
19 asked for 375 million. We got 326 million. So part way  
20 but still far from what's needed.

21 And then the Preschool Development Grant  
22 Program, again, California doesn't get it, but they  
23 maintained funding for that because it's really  
24 continuation grants for the 18 states that get funding.

25 So again we put a lot of effort around the

1 funding fight. We arrange calls, again, with Tessa's help  
2 with ad a whole bunch of California advocates with some of  
3 your key members of Congress, Congressman Becerra,  
4 Congress woman Roybal-Allard. Roybal-Allard is on our  
5 appropriations subcommittee, particular the need to  
6 increase funding for CCDBG.

7 We, again, with Tessa's helped work on a  
8 coalition letter that we sent out to every member of the  
9 health California delegation. That letter was actually  
10 used as a model by the national coalition for other states  
11 that tried to put together similar letters for urging  
12 Congress to increase funding for CCDBG.

13 So looking forward, so the President's budget  
14 just came out Tuesday. It's \$4 trillion. So here's the  
15 problem we again face. So as I mentioned, there's this  
16 cap on nondefense discretionary spending. It was raised  
17 last year, but for fiscal '17, when they raised it, they  
18 only raised it to the same levels they raised it fiscal  
19 '16. So we're starting off this year with a cap for  
20 nondefense discretionary. Basically, exactly the same as  
21 what we had last year. So what that means is, in the  
22 aggregate there's no monies to increase anything or, for  
23 anything to get an increase, something else is going to  
24 get a decrease.

25 So within that very constrained fiscal

1 environment, the President's budget does again prioritize  
2 -- and, obviously, everything is relevant -- early  
3 learning as well as other education programs. So he's  
4 proposing another increase in CCDBG \$200 million, another  
5 increase in Head Start 434 million. Again, a chunk of  
6 that would be used for expanding to full-day, full school  
7 year programs.

8 For the preschool development grant program,  
9 which, as I said, was rewritten in the ESSA, the new Every  
10 Student Succeeds Act, proposing money for essentially the  
11 last year of the grants of the current 18 state grantees,  
12 and then a hundred million for new competition. His  
13 budget also proposes on the mandatory side, as I  
14 mentioned, the mandatory funding, 75 billion for preschool  
15 for all.

16 So the problem there -- or the reality there is  
17 the way, again, Congress budget works is any new mandatory  
18 funded program has to be paid for either by cutting an  
19 existing mandatory funded program and/or raising revenues.  
20 In this case, the President proposes to pay for that by  
21 doubling the federal tax on tobacco products. He's raised  
22 this the last three years in his budget. The chance of it  
23 happened, unfortunately, is zero. So it's not going to  
24 happen under the Republican Congress.

25 He's also proposed mandatory funding to extend

1 and expand the MIECHV home visiting program, 15 billion  
2 over ten years. MIECHV is now funded at 400 million a  
3 year. He wants to raise it to 1.5 billion a year.

4 And then in terms of homelessness, Kim asked us  
5 to mention that. So the budget has another proposed new  
6 initiative, \$11 billion to end family homelessness by  
7 2020. This is, again, proposed mandatory funding. So for  
8 it to happen, Congress would actually have to pass a bill  
9 to create this and fund it somehow. So probably not  
10 overly likely. The way it's set up is that roughly 80  
11 percent of it would be spent on housing vouchers to help  
12 families pay for housing, and the rest about 20 percent,  
13 would be spent on sort of short-term assistance, sort of  
14 rapid response assistance. It would create about 10,000 --  
15 in addition to that, there would be about 10,000 --  
16 through the regular sort of HUD budget, \$10,000 new  
17 housing vouchers, 8,000 new units of housing, and 25,000  
18 new units of supportive housing. The HUD has been working  
19 on initiative with communities to create sort a continuum  
20 of services for homeless families, and this would be a  
21 major expansion of that. Again, it's not overly likely to  
22 happen I'd have to say. And we can talk more about that.

23 In terms of early care and education looking  
24 forward, again, we're going to focus a lot on the budget  
25 because that happens every year. To be honest, there's

1 always a fight from some of the more conservative House  
2 Republicans, as opposed to moving forward, to move us  
3 backwards. They want to take away the \$15 billion  
4 increase we just got last year. So the likelihood is that  
5 Congress is going to end up with what's called a  
6 continuing resolution, funding everything at this year's  
7 levels temporarily until December. And then the outcome is  
8 going to be based on who gets elected president and who  
9 takes control of the Senate. And that will determine  
10 whether they further kick the can down the road into the  
11 next Congress or wrap stuff up in December.

12 And then looking ahead in fiscal '18 is going to  
13 be an even bigger problem because this cap on nondefense  
14 discretionary spending, absent any change, goes down. So  
15 unless the next Congress and the next president say, we  
16 again want to -- we don't want to cut things. We want to  
17 invest, we need to raise the cap, it's going to be an even  
18 bigger -- a bigger fight.

19 As I mentioned, we're going to spend efforts on  
20 monitoring and influencing the Every Students Success Act.  
21 The U.S. Department of Education started that process with  
22 some initial guidance to states. They're pulling together  
23 stakeholders for what's called negotiated rule making in  
24 certain areas. But, again, really a lot -- the thrust of  
25 the Every Student Success Act in general was to shift a

1 lot of the decision making on school accountability and  
2 consequences from the federal government to states and  
3 school districts. So there's a lot more flexibility  
4 states and school districts have. A lot of decisions  
5 around that are going to be made by CDE and LAUSD and  
6 other school districts. And there's, again, a lot of  
7 issues, as an example, for so-called low-performing  
8 schools, is early childhood sort of part of the  
9 intervention to help improve schools. That's really going  
10 to be up to LAUSD and other school districts.

11 We're also going to be monitoring and commenting  
12 on the Child Care Development Block Grant regulations. In  
13 fact, just while I was sitting here, the coalition we work  
14 with, the National Women's Law Center and CLASP, the  
15 Center on Law and Social Policy, put out draft comments on  
16 the draft regulations. We'll be looking at that with  
17 Tessa and deciding whether First 5 LA sign on to that.

18 There's a variety of issues like around -- the  
19 bill requires new background checks including for non --  
20 for license-exempt providers issues. So there's issues  
21 about, does everyone in the family have to go through a  
22 background check if it's in a home, that kind of stuff.

23 In terms of family strengthening, the MIECHV  
24 program doesn't expire until 2017, but there will be some  
25 preliminary work around that. Again, there will be

1 efforts to try to expand that, to try to provide more  
2 focus around developmental screenings, things like that.

3 California currently gets 22 million and LA  
4 county gets 2.8 million from that program, including money  
5 that goes to the Nurse Family Partnership and Healthy  
6 Families America. Nationally, it's 400 million just to  
7 give context there.

8 Just a couple of other quick things. On the  
9 trauma-informed care priority of the commission, we want  
10 to continue to look at ways to find opportunities at the  
11 federal level. As an example, there's a possibility  
12 Congress might actually do something on mental health  
13 legislation this year. There's actually some bipartisan  
14 bills such as the bill by two senators listed up there and  
15 some opportunities to focus on developmental screening for  
16 sort of mental health issues for children in that bill.

17 Other stuff we're doing on developmental  
18 screenings. We've already connected with a wide range of  
19 groups. I won't read them all. You can see them there.  
20 We're going to work on, you know, promoting appropriate  
21 developmental screenings throughout the health care and  
22 education systems. One example is increasing funds under  
23 IDEA, the Individuals Disabilities Education Act Special  
24 Education Program, particularly for the infants and  
25 families program. The President's budget actually

1 proposes to do that. So there's some opportunity to see  
2 some positive outcomes there.

3 We're also continuing to work on home visiting.  
4 Early -- all of your priorities trying to get the  
5 political parties' platforms, both the Democrats and  
6 Republicans at their conventions will finalize their party  
7 platforms. There's platform drafting committees that will  
8 occur later in the spring, opportunities to sort of  
9 influence that. Whoever is elected president will have a  
10 transition team, a whole process, and there will be  
11 opportunities to influence and interact with that. And  
12 then just looking for other partners we can work with  
13 beyond the usual partners.

14 So I will stop there and answer questions, but I  
15 know you guys like seeing pictures of children. So this  
16 is Tessa's nephew, Tobin. Tessa can explain what he's  
17 doing there. And this is my grandson. My daughter,  
18 son-in-law, and grandson went on vacation so Iceland in  
19 January. I think they got cheap air fair. And so that's  
20 my grandson some place outside of the Reykjavik in  
21 Iceland.

22 So I will stop there. I'm happy to answer  
23 questions, comments, suggestions.

24 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: I'm sure Oliver will tell his  
25 grandchildren, remember when there were glaciers. This is

1 what they look like.

2 MR. PACKER: Remember when there was ice in  
3 Iceland.

4 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: As well. And it's not green  
5 in Greenland, so it's amazing.

6 Any questions or comments to Joel about any of  
7 his presentation?

8 Suzanne.

9 COMMISSIONER BOSTWICK: Just a real quick  
10 clarification on your President's budget proposal about  
11 increase in MIECHV funds, on the slide it says 15 billion,  
12 but I thought you verbally said 1.5 billion.

13 MR. PACKER: That's a ten-year proposal. So  
14 MIECHV is currently funded 400 million a year. So his  
15 proposal is, extend it for ten years and fund it at 1.5  
16 billion per year for each of the ten years.

17 COMMISSIONER BOSTWICK: Okay. Thank you.

18 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: Other comments or questions?  
19 Judy.

20 COMMISSIONER ABDO: Thank you very much for  
21 bringing us this information. I'm finding it very  
22 discouraging for the actual possible outcomes. But I  
23 guess what I'd like to know, is there anything that we can  
24 do to help move any of our issues forward, even though it  
25 looks bleak when you look at how the federal government

1 actually funds itself.

2 MR. PACKER: Yeah. So things are bleak, but on  
3 the other hand, we actually had -- you know, I'd just say  
4 we a lot of victories. I mean, we had preschool sort of  
5 infused throughout ESCA, bipartisan basis, CCDBG  
6 reauthorized bipartisan basis. We got almost a billion  
7 dollar increase in funding last year. So I think there  
8 is, you know -- so early childhood education, a lot of  
9 these issues, they're kind of different. I also point out  
10 like gun control or abortion where people are either for  
11 or against it. No one is against per se early learning.  
12 They might differ about how best to do it or who should be  
13 -- where the money should come from, but there is  
14 bipartisan support.

15 I'd also say that Speaker of the House Paul Ryan  
16 is very focused. One of his priorities or issue areas  
17 are, how to reduce poverty. Some of the solutions may be  
18 things you don't all agree with, but there's some  
19 opportunities there. He in fact just appointed a task  
20 force of several House committee chairmen. He created a  
21 task force on economic opportunity and mobility I think  
22 it's called. So he actually is focused a little bit  
23 different than some of what we're hearing from the  
24 presidential candidates about how to help reduce poverty.

25 So I think the most important thing, particularly

1 when dealing with House Republicans, and they're majority,  
2 is they want to know for any funding, as you talked about  
3 some of your earlier things, how is the money being used,  
4 what's the results, what's the evidence, what's the  
5 outcomes, what would happen if you got more money, what  
6 would happen if you got less money. So I think the better  
7 data about -- for any of these programs, you know, how's  
8 it's being used in LA county, who's benefiting, you know,  
9 are there results that can be shown about the programs.

10 And the other things that members of Congress  
11 like is stories because, at some point, millions,  
12 billions, trillions sort of like, what does that mean.  
13 So stories. I mean, you always members of Congress --  
14 great example, when they were marking up the education  
15 bill in committee, pretty much every amendment a senator  
16 offered, he or she started with a story. Jane Doe, a  
17 teacher in my district told me blah, blah; or the  
18 principal in a school in my district said this. So  
19 stories from people about, here's a problem I'm having or  
20 here's how this money has benefited me or my family or my  
21 child.

22 And I think the other thing, and particularly  
23 since you represent a variety of different interests, is,  
24 as we said talked about, bringing in different voices so  
25 the business community -- we actually work a lot with the

1 LA chamber as well. In fact, I'm meeting with them  
2 tomorrow. So they've been really helpful. So that's not  
3 just sort of quote/unquote the usual suspects, but that  
4 business community, faith-based community, others who are  
5 interested in families and children making the case as  
6 well.

7 So in terms of LA, almost all your members of  
8 Congress -- pretty much all your members of Congress are  
9 Democrats. They're generally with us in a lot of these  
10 things, but they're in the minority. So I think also Los  
11 Angeles is reaching out to other First 5s. So Kevin  
12 McCarthy is the House majority leader. So I guess a  
13 little sliver of LA county up in the top, but mostly not  
14 in LA county. There's other Republicans from California,  
15 obviously, with some influence.

16 So figuring out ways to partner with others who  
17 can get to some of these other House Republicans who are  
18 not housed in LA county. So those are some.

19 But the budget situation is just going to be  
20 challenging. And the other just reality we face is long  
21 term just because of demographics. social Security cost  
22 are going to continue to increase. Medicare cost are  
23 continuing to increase. And so the Congressional Budget  
24 Office just two weeks ago projected, you know, absent  
25 anything federal budget deficits are going to start really

1 going up a lot. And there's just going to be a lot of  
2 fiscal pressures. And it's just going to be very  
3 challenging to get really significant increases at the  
4 federal level.

5 COMMISSIONER ABDO: I guess what I'd like to say,  
6 I also agree that you should not retire. But since you  
7 seem intent on doing that, the rest of the staff, if there  
8 are things that we should be doing along the way to help,  
9 I hope you won't be shy about asking the staff and the  
10 commission members to -- to actually do something. You  
11 know, and maybe the idea of a video like Sheila talked  
12 about that worked in the county about housing would help.

13 Thank you.

14 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: Thank you.

15 Nancy.

16 COMMISSIONER AU: I actually want to congratulate  
17 you because when you -- when we were presented with this  
18 list of what was planning -- you were all planning to  
19 accomplish, I was rather skeptical because, I agree, you  
20 know, Congress was, from my vantage point, highly  
21 dysfunctional. And then to see what has been  
22 accomplished, I really have to commend you. And it's --  
23 it's actually very encouraging because your additional  
24 comment is that, no matter what political party they're  
25 part of, you know, the one thing that binds us all is that

1 we do care about our children and families. And no --  
2 again, no matter what side of the aisle they're sitting,  
3 at least we have that to take -- take advantage of.

4 So given that and the reality this is an election  
5 year, I -- again, I can't help but put my skeptical hat on  
6 in terms of whether or not we would be able to accomplish  
7 anything this coming year until after the election and  
8 whoever we are able to elect.

9 MR. PACKER: Yes. I think the Congress is going  
10 to really focus a lot on what their basic function is,  
11 which is passing appropriations bill. So Congress the  
12 last few years tends to work -- do things when they're  
13 facing a deadline. Like if we don't do this, the  
14 government is going to default. If we don't do this, the  
15 government is going to shut down. If we don't do this,  
16 everyone's taxes are going to go up or whatever. They're  
17 not facing any real deadlines like that this year. So  
18 they're probably not going to do a lot new policy things.

19 On funding, they have to do something every year.  
20 So there's an opportunity that we might be able to get  
21 some of these increases -- they'll be relatively modest.  
22 We also have to work hard to make sure there's no cuts  
23 because that's also a possibility. And I think there's,  
24 you know, opportunities as I said to start looking ahead,  
25 like through the party platforms, reaching out, you know,

1 as the candidates continue to sort of get whittled down  
2 reaching out as a flesh out their policies.

3 So I think there's some opportunities engaging  
4 with, you know, Speaker Ryan's new task force that he  
5 literally just announced last week. We had -- for another  
6 client I represent, we had his assistant for education  
7 policy come speak to us. And, you know, I think -- so I  
8 think there's a variety of opportunities, but there's not  
9 going to be bold new things this Congress is going to do,  
10 particularly on the Senate side where the Democrats have a  
11 chance to take the majority back.

12 Majority leader McConnell's really main goal is  
13 to keep the Republicans in the majority. So he wants to  
14 sort of protect his members from having to take difficult  
15 votes to be honest about it.

16 So we'll see. I mean, you never know. You have  
17 to be prepare and had look for opportunities and be  
18 advocating for things we believe in and see if there's  
19 some chance to get things done.

20 COMMISSIONER AU: Thank you.

21 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: Other comments or questions?

22 Duane.

23 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: One of the things -- I used  
24 to, you know, be on the hill a lot. And one of the things  
25 we could do is that we look at some of our grantees and

1 the relationships they have with Assembly members.

2 I remember trying to get in Buck McCain's  
3 (phonetic) office maybe five straight years and my only  
4 way to get into Buck's office was through a fellow agency  
5 and their policy director. And so the degree to which we  
6 can map out our grantees, find out who are their  
7 representatives, and trying to get alignment, you know, in  
8 Washington as well as in Sacramento may be helpful because  
9 there are relationships, you know, when you look at  
10 Santa Clarita, Antelope Valley, and those tight areas.  
11 And those areas have real serious need as far as families  
12 and children are concerned.

13 So I mean, to your point, Judy, that may be a  
14 strategy if we start mapping where our grantees are  
15 because they do have relationships with their  
16 representatives.

17 COMMISSIONER ABDO: Good.

18 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: Phil.

19 COMMISSIONER BROWNING: If you can convince some  
20 of the members of the Board of Supervisors who are  
21 Republican that this is important, you can also get in.  
22 I've been with them to DC and they don't have any trouble  
23 getting into some of those offices you talked about. So I  
24 think they do have access. There are a lot of ways I  
25 think, but we have to convince some of those members that

1 this is an important issue.

2 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: So it's interesting to me -- I  
3 mean, four of the five of us have now chaired First 5 LA.  
4 And it's an issue I think that is important to the  
5 members. We're going to Washington in April, as we always  
6 do for a week. We generally emphasize health care because  
7 those are the greatest needs that we see in the county,  
8 but I don't think it would be untoward to let me know one  
9 thing that we may say. Now again, we mostly meet with  
10 Democrats who are the representatives of the county. But  
11 we met with Kevin last year and others. Mark and I and  
12 Hilda have served with half the Republicans that are there  
13 from California in the California Legislature. So we do  
14 visit with them.

15 And so I think it would be at least, you know,  
16 useful to see maybe through me -- it doesn't have to be  
17 through me -- if we can get an item on our agenda that --  
18 where we go and say the same thing as we do -- you know,  
19 as we go around.

20 The other two things I think are ways in which we  
21 can affect decisions, it's not really clear the suggestion  
22 about our grantees who -- you know, sort of going wider to  
23 figure out who might be aligned with us advocating. And  
24 from the other end of the spectrum, I think we also want  
25 to make certain that our grantees are and our partners,

1 our program partners are pulling down the money that they  
2 can pull down. We get a lot of bad news about how this is  
3 not going to be more and it's not going to be more, but \$4  
4 trillion is still \$4 trillion, even if most of it goes for  
5 defense. There's still a few bucks, you know, left over  
6 for these programs.

7 So I think that it would also be good for us from  
8 time to time to understand the opportunities that we may  
9 want to pass on or even think about if there's a way to  
10 access it ourselves. And we may have further discussion  
11 about that.

12 So anything further for Joel?

13 Enjoy yourself.

14 MR. PACKER: I appreciate it. It's been great  
15 working with you all, working with Tessa and Peter and the  
16 rest of the staff. And, again, after I'm gone, you have a  
17 great team and others who will be coming on to the Raben  
18 Group, so we look forward to continuing to work with you  
19 to advocate for children in Los Angeles county.

20 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: Thank you very much for your  
21 good work.

22 Now let us turn to the Governor's budget, the  
23 State of California.

24 MR. BARTH: I'm actually going to take the  
25 opportunity quickly just to follow up to say we really

1 appreciate the opportunity to work with the Raben Group,  
2 but exactly on some of those items that commissioners have  
3 mentioned, just a couple of examples I saw Tessa trying to  
4 jump out of her seat to share.

5 One example specifically is in the context of the  
6 reauthorization of the education bill. We were able to,  
7 through the Raben Group and through Tessa's  
8 thoughtfulness, pull together groups of our grantees and  
9 advocate partners and others to have conversations with  
10 staff of our elected officials and staff of the various  
11 committees to say, here's what we care about as a group  
12 collectively. And for a lot of those organizations, they  
13 didn't have direct access. So we were trying to connect  
14 the dots. It wasn't us as First 5 LA staff advocating.  
15 It was us providing the opportunities to other. So that's  
16 one example of how we want to continue to operate.

17 The second was in the context of some of the  
18 early literacy funding. There were some organizations who  
19 had basically been trying to make sure that they would be  
20 eligible to apply for literacy funding and our little by  
21 little project would have been sort of cut out of  
22 eligibility. And we said, hey, we need to make sure that  
23 our programs that we have invested in have the opportunity  
24 to apply for funding when it's available. Now it's not  
25 saying the funding is necessarily sufficient all the time

1 or that it's perfect, but we always want to make sure that  
2 we're tracking those specific items.

3 And the final thing I'll mention in regards to  
4 the federal work is, unlike the state budget where every  
5 year we have really deep, very time intensive policy  
6 conversations that can lead to immediate action -- take  
7 for example the Child Care Development Block Grant.  
8 The last time that bill was authorized by federal Congress  
9 was before First 5 LA even existed. So these are really  
10 historic opportunities for us to completely shape how  
11 federal money comes to the State of California.

12 But just because that bill passed a little over a  
13 year ago doesn't mean the work is done for our team. We  
14 have to work really closely with our state colleagues then  
15 as the state department of education is developing their  
16 plan for how they want the funding to go to local  
17 governments and to local agencies because that doesn't  
18 always align. So it's a constant iteration between the  
19 federal level, the state level, the local level because,  
20 if you're a provider here in LA county, you know you have  
21 blended funding sources. Some of it comes from the  
22 federal government, some of it comes from the state  
23 government and others. So we just really appreciate the  
24 partners we have to help make this real.

25 And we will also be sharing some more information

1 in the future. We every year partner with the LA chamber  
2 to go to DC along with a lot of our other LA colleagues to  
3 make sure we're sharing this message.

4 So with that, I'll actually turn on to the topic  
5 I'm supposed to be talking about and will try to be quick  
6 with it.

7 First, I just want to share with you, for those  
8 of you who have been members of commission for some time,  
9 you'll know that over the course of a year there are a  
10 number of different items that the public policy and  
11 government affairs department brings for your  
12 consideration. And I want to make sure that you see an  
13 ahead for what the year's going to be bringing. But then  
14 let's just turn our attention to the issue at hand, which  
15 is the Governor's budget.

16 So today, we had federal update, but we'll  
17 continue, especially through the executive director's  
18 report, to share updated information. At next month's  
19 commission meeting our state advocates will be here to  
20 provide a similar presentation. But we also have a very  
21 aggressive legislative agenda every year. So we'll be  
22 bringing that for information to the P and PC and then  
23 also to the full commission throughout the spring. And  
24 we'll continue to provide updates throughout the year as  
25 things move forward.

1           This really follows the timeline of what's  
2 happening in DC, in the state, in the local level. Right  
3 now, as we know, a lot of legislative ideas are being  
4 floated so we don't yet have a firm grasp of all the  
5 different issues we may want to be engaged in this year,  
6 but we're keeping our finger on the pulse and figuring  
7 that out.

8           So the topic today, the state budget. As we all  
9 know and as our executive director shared at last month's  
10 meeting, the Governor in his proposal for the budget last  
11 month put forward something that was pretty surprising and  
12 ambitious, which was to first ask the Department of  
13 Education to develop a plan over five years to turn all  
14 child care funding into vouchers. As we know, our current  
15 system is a blended model. So this was something that was  
16 a statement of policy interest but didn't necessarily have  
17 immediate impact this year. But the real surprising  
18 announcement was the early learning block grant concept,  
19 which was to take all the funding for early learning -- So  
20 that's the state preschool program, our quality funding,  
21 and then the direct contracts for early learning -- and  
22 lump it into one block grant that will go to local  
23 education agencies. And that was it. We didn't really  
24 know more. We had no idea what was coming. But as we  
25 started to unravel that a little bit more and have more

1 conversations with folks in the state, we realized there  
2 were just a lot of issues that were at play here. So, for  
3 example, this proposal would impact school districts in LA  
4 directly because, first of all, for those districts like  
5 LAUSD who had been saying, you know, we want to expand  
6 transitional kindergarten to serve more children, we think  
7 that's both a good thing to do, but it's also a financial  
8 incentive for us to do it because we'll get average daily  
9 attendance funding for it. That incentive now goes away.  
10 So we've actually heard from our partners that we're  
11 holding off expanding transitional kindergarten until we  
12 know more, until we know if this is going to go through  
13 because if this passes, we have no more financial  
14 incentive to expand that program.

15 But on the other side, you private providers who  
16 have been receiving funding through direct contracts  
17 saying, wait a minute, now you're asking me to trust that  
18 my LEA is going to want to work with me to provide  
19 services. You may be putting a lot of small business  
20 owners out of business.

21 So what's actually happened here is you have  
22 multiple people who are being impacted by the system and  
23 party saying, we don't really like what this is all about  
24 and we don't really know how to respond to this.

25 There's also just the problem that there's no new

1 funding being put into this proposal at all and that  
2 there's no investment or recognition of the importance of  
3 quality or accountability.

4 And the legislative analyst's office which is  
5 sort of like the CBO, the Congressional Legislative Office  
6 in DC, put out their analysis of the budget, and basically  
7 said, you know, the system really could benefit from some  
8 improvements. So we actually think the Governor's  
9 proposal is a good starting point but we don't have any of  
10 these other issues being addressed and we need to address  
11 them. And also, legislature, you have the authority to  
12 propose a lot more money if you want to.

13 So as we think about this, you know, we've been  
14 working with advocates and other partners in the state  
15 budget coalition for some time. And I mentioned this. I  
16 had a call this morning and there's another call happening  
17 right now with these groups discussing how are we going to  
18 be moving forward with some of these issues.

19 And what we've come to is basically this.  
20 Because Commissioner Abdo at our PPC meeting said, how can  
21 we be helpful and more than that, what are we supposed to  
22 say. When we get a phone call, what are we really  
23 supposed to be doing. And the first message that we've  
24 all agreed to, regardless of who we represent and  
25 regardless of what interest we have in the system, is the

1 system needs more money. You cannot -- this is not fancy  
2 language that we would actually say in Sacramento  
3 necessarily, but, really, you're going to put out a budget  
4 in the year when we have the most general fund revenues in  
5 state history and you're not going to increase any funding  
6 for child care or preschool. We're going to spend less  
7 money this year than we did ten years ago on this. This  
8 is not okay. We really have to work on the funding piece.

9 But secondly, rather than just saying, no, we  
10 don't like the proposal, scrap it, we want to say, you  
11 know what, thank you for introducing some ideas. We want  
12 to work with you on this. And we're actually going to  
13 take you up on your offer to go through a planning process  
14 on the voucher proposal and child care and instead say,  
15 can we work with you on the entire system. Can we,  
16 consistent with your proposal for the local control  
17 funding formula, actually go through a thoughtful public  
18 process that engages stakeholders from all these various  
19 perspectives to come up with a plan we all agree on, that  
20 will be responsible, that will address issues of  
21 accountability and quality and funding rather than trying  
22 to ram it through this budget year. And in the interim,  
23 can we start to move towards some common sense plans like  
24 issues around eligibility, turning it to annual  
25 eligibility rather than six month eligibility.

1 I cut out. There we go.

2 Or issues like consolidating the reimbursement  
3 rates so we no longer have these multiple systems at play.  
4 Let's work with you on those common sense interim steps  
5 while we also go through this very thoughtful planning  
6 process so we can create a system we want to reform.

7 So that's really what we want. That's what the  
8 advocates are talking about. And that's what -- if you  
9 get some phone calls, that's the common messaging we hope  
10 that you'll be able to help share. There's a lot more  
11 work to be done. We have a lot more fleshing out of  
12 details we have to do, but we're really excited that, over  
13 the past year, we've been able to work closely with  
14 advocates from the resource and referral networks, from  
15 child care providers, to early learning advocates so that  
16 we can try to move forward with some common messaging.

17 So what's happening next just for your  
18 information, like I said, a lot of meetings happening now,  
19 a lot of phone calls, a lot of trying to make sure that  
20 we're on the same page as we go into hearings. So the  
21 Legislature is starting to call hearings so that we can  
22 start to talk to the Department of Finance who have asked  
23 for comments and for engagement.

24 And but really this points to the need for us to  
25 be supportive of our partners. We can't do this on our

1 own. We're asking a lot of a lot of partners who have  
2 seen the need for investment in Sacramento based advocacy  
3 and LA advocacy, but we need to be there to support them  
4 as well. So that's an ongoing theme here.

5 And then of course your engagement. If you're  
6 interested in these issues, please let me know. We're  
7 happy to put you in connection with some folks. You all  
8 are very connected yourselves. You're going to get a lot  
9 of questions and have a lot of conversations about these  
10 issues.

11 And upcoming, we're going to have our visit up t  
12 Sacramento with the First 5 Association in April. We're  
13 going to have proposals and ideas that we want to put  
14 forward and we'd love for you to take a look at some of  
15 the things we're thinking of saying and doing.

16 But that is -- that's what our plan is. That's  
17 what we're looking forward to doing over the course of the  
18 next many months.

19 So with that, I'll leave you with this photo of  
20 my cousin's son and daughter who are just really lovely.

21 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: Thank you very much.

22 Duane.

23 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: Two things, Peter. First  
24 of which, the LEA in LA county is LACOE not LAUSD.

25 MR. BARTH: Right. Here's the issue though.

1 There is not a clear understanding from the Department of  
2 Finance how they want to define this. And there's even  
3 some proposal thrown out oddly enough about whether or not  
4 they would be doing it with county offices of education  
5 and school districts directly, and even having some  
6 non-LEA, non-education agency period partners able to  
7 receive some of these block grants. None of that made  
8 sense to anyone. And that's why we were flagging this,  
9 okay, if this is the confusion we have now, we're not  
10 going to solve this within two months.

11 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: And then a second point.  
12 And I hope we don't lose sight of our policy agenda from  
13 last year in which we went to Sacramento articulating  
14 issues around developmental screening and high-quality  
15 care. So although the Governor's proposing a new set of  
16 priorities, I hope we keep in mind that, you know, we said  
17 last year and I hope we're saying it this year, it's not  
18 good enough just to have a subsidized space, but it needs  
19 to be a qualitative space, especially as it relates to  
20 low-income children. So I hope that we keep that and  
21 don't lose that in -- in -- in the flavor of this session.

22 MR. BARTH: Exactly. And that's -- our hope is  
23 because -- because the Governor's proposal has shifted the  
24 conversation away from what advocates wanted to keep  
25 pushing on from the last year to now this fundamental

1 reform of the system, what's being said instead is, let's  
2 try -- let's use the alternative by saying, okay, we want  
3 to engage with you, let's do this through a thoughtful  
4 process so we can turn back to those issues that are  
5 importance of not just access, not just affordability and  
6 quality, all of those issues together. Let's focus on  
7 that comprehensive piece and then we can go back to say,  
8 let's talk about the rates, let's talk about what we're  
9 doing about building a quality system, et cetera.

10 So that is definitely -- the intent of this is to  
11 take the attention away from the proposal and back on the  
12 real issues that we're trying to focus on.

13 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: Go ahead.

14 COMMISSIONER ZEPEDA: I have a comment and a  
15 question. If you look at LCFS, number one, there's more  
16 money associated with it, which this is not. There's no  
17 money associated with this one, and number two, and I  
18 think this kind of follows up on what Duane was saying,  
19 they specify specific categories or targets to look at in  
20 terms of foster children, in terms of English learners, in  
21 term of -- they have this whole laundry list. And then  
22 it's the stakeholders within those communities that decide  
23 where they're going to put their money. And so there  
24 needs to be that conversation with the Governor about --  
25 about if in fact this -- he's modeling it after LCFS, then

1 where are the other pieces that are missing.

2 MR. BARTH: Exactly. That's a hundred percent  
3 what we're saying. We're saying, consistent with the  
4 Governor's approach with the local control funding  
5 formula, these are the things that we need do in this  
6 context that this proposal does not address: More money,  
7 the target population issues, issues of additional  
8 resources for specific needs, accountability. None of  
9 that is built in.

10 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: Judy.

11 COMMISSIONER ABDO: And I just want to add to  
12 that is that the getting to the complicated funding  
13 requirements, eligibility requirements that everybody in  
14 this -- in this world has to deal with. And it's so  
15 complicated that I would be surprised if more than two  
16 people in the legislature understand it. And I'm not sure  
17 that anybody has the time and energy to learn all of that.  
18 So we need to find ways to talk about those issues because  
19 it could be a much easier program to administer which  
20 would be good for everybody if we had some ability to kind  
21 of reorganize some of the -- the big issues that are  
22 unfair and piecemeal. But I don't think that's going to  
23 happen this year. So we need to figure out how to talk  
24 about those things but then also say, but for this next  
25 budget, we need a daily rate to go up, we need more money

1 entirely. You know, the issues that came up last year are  
2 even more important this year.

3 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: Duane.

4 COMMISSIONER DENNIS: And, finally, Peter the  
5 whole concept that we've been dealing, too, as far as  
6 vision, which is consistent of home visitation, quality  
7 infant and toddler programs, you know, high quality  
8 preschool and then entree into kindergarten. And I just  
9 don't want to lose that because I think that was important  
10 to capture in the session last year. And so I mean I  
11 think we have to maintain some of those values which are  
12 consistent with our, you know, ongoing strategy as we look  
13 at our workforce, QRIS, and family engagement.

14 MR. BARTH: And when we come back to the  
15 commission in March, both PPC and then to the full  
16 commission, you're going to see more about our  
17 comprehensive state policy agenda which is what we're  
18 working on with our partners that includes home visiting  
19 and our family strengthening priorities, that includes  
20 developmental screening, that includes our work on  
21 workforce development. So it's a much broader agenda that  
22 we care about.

23 This is in reaction partially to, at our last PPC  
24 meeting when there was a discussion about this specific  
25 proposal within the budget that has a lot of folks

1 concerned, this is one area we're spending our time. But  
2 definitely I don't want you to think this is the only  
3 thing we're working on because it's definitely not.  
4 There's a lot more there.

5 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: Other question or comments?

6 Peter, when do the budget subs start meeting?

7 MR. BARTH: So the first one that's related to  
8 these issues are February 29th. So that's our goal is to  
9 by then have a lot more common messaging that we're going  
10 to get a lot of our advocacy partners on the same page  
11 saying the same things. Because what's happening in  
12 absence of some of this common messaging is some people  
13 are coming to the table with some of the asks they had  
14 last year. The problem is that those are very specific  
15 pieces. So one group may say, we need to increase the  
16 standard reimbursement rate. And we're saying, well, it's  
17 not just about the standard reimbursement rate. It's  
18 about all the rates. And so when we look at the rates as  
19 a whole, how do we as a community say, this proposal will  
20 benefit all of us. So that's what we're trying to do is  
21 by the 29th our goal is to have some much more common  
22 messaging.

23 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: So in developing the common  
24 messaging, I'm assuming that we never say on behalf of  
25 First 5, we like this part of the budget or whatever. It

1 seems to me we generally do this in coalition with others  
2 and --

3 MR. BARTH: Yes, yes.

4 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: -- and related to the child  
5 care and child welfare communities.

6 MR. BARTH: Exactly. It's about partnership with  
7 children now and early ed and CCRC and the alliance and  
8 CAPPa and all of these groups that have a presence and us  
9 saying, as an early learning coalition, here's what we  
10 care about. And then we'll all individually sign on so  
11 that people who have connections to these organizations  
12 can then reach out, but it's about a coalition. It's not  
13 about just First 5 LA.

14 MS. BELSHE: But there's nothing that would  
15 preclude this commission from taking a position on its  
16 own. It's more of a tactical --

17 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: I understand that, but I think  
18 it's too early. Obviously things -- as you know very  
19 well, things change a lot all the way up to the main  
20 revise and beyond.

21 So just curious about how we sort of present  
22 ourselves through the various months.

23 MR. BARTH: And our approach also on that point  
24 is to be supportive of the legislative leadership that  
25 cares about these issues. So the messaging that I've

1 shared today and some of the principles have to do more  
2 with the broad approach to how we want to work with folks  
3 and saying, we're here to work with you and here's some of  
4 the basic principles that we have for the system. But we  
5 want to be working with the women's caucus and the new  
6 speaker and those who have -- we don't want to get so far  
7 out of ahead of them that we're not in step with them  
8 because they're our champions. So it's definitely about  
9 the process.

10 And thank you for the reminder. This is early  
11 on. This is the beginning. And we have a lot more to go  
12 through before we actually come up with something that's  
13 going to be more --

14 SUPERVISOR KUEHL: Do you have any indicators at  
15 all in the coalition about counterproposals on the budget  
16 sort of in the big picture stuff from either House?

17 MR. BARTH: No, not yet. Except for actually --  
18 and I apologize because I don't have the specific. The  
19 women's caucus today was doing a precedent. And my  
20 understanding is that they're -- unlike last year when  
21 they came out of the gate with a very specific proposal  
22 that outlined everything, they were just saying, more  
23 money. If we're bringing in an extra billion dollars a  
24 month into the budget every year, at least a billion of it  
25 should be going to child care and to kids.

1           So they're similarly taking the approach of,  
2     let's be general, let's be big, and let's work together to  
3     workout the specifics.

4           SUPERVISOR KUEHL: That's generally been the  
5     caucus that's been the strongest about child care and  
6     early childhood education for decades. We actually did  
7     hold up the budget one year to get more child care money,  
8     but only one year. It's difficult because we say, more  
9     money, and could you estimate how many people just today  
10    might be saying more money that they need? Would it be  
11    less than a million? No, it would not. It's a problem  
12    because I would hear from everybody, you know, what we  
13    really need is more money.

14           But that is all the more reason to be adamant  
15    amount about it because why would we be less adamant than  
16    anyone else.

17           All right. Thank you very much for that. We  
18    look forward to the further presentation in March.

19           That takes us to public comment. Do we have any  
20    requests? We have no requests for public comment.

21           We are coming to a motion to adjourn. Any last  
22    thoughts from my commissioners? I don't mean last in the  
23    world. I just mean last for this meeting.

24           All right then. Thank you all very, very much.

25           Phillip?

1           COMMISSIONER BROWNING: I just said  
2 congratulations on getting out early.

3           SUPERVISOR KUEHL: Is this early? Oh, good.  
4 This is just doesn't seem early to me. So I may have  
5 further endeared myself to the commission by saying that.

6           Thanks you all. Thanks to those in the audience  
7 who were here to listen and participate. Thanks to the  
8 commissioners. Have a wonderful month. See you at the  
9 committee meetings and then at March meeting.

10          Do I have a motion to adjourn?

11          COMMISSIONER AU: Moved.

12          SUPERVISOR KUEHL: It's moved and seconded. Any  
13 objection? Hearing none, we are adjourned.

14                   (At 3::55 p.m. the meeting was adjourned.)  
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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Heatherlynn Gonzalez, a Certified Shorthand Reporter for the State of California, License Number 13646, do hereby attest that:

The preceding is a true and accurate transcription of the meeting of the organization named herein;

The meeting was taken down in shorthand and transcribed into English under my supervision and authority;

I have no interest, financial or otherwise, in any of the parties, issues, or individuals who are involved in this organization.

Attested to on this 24th day of February, 2016.

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CERTIFIED SHORTHAND REPORTER  
FOR THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

FIRST 5 LA

**SUBJECT:**  
Monthly Financial Reports

**RECOMMENDATION:**  
Approval of the monthly financial statements for the month ending January 31, 2016.

**BACKGROUND:**  
Staff provides monthly financial reports for the Commission's review and approval to ensure transparency of the financial status of First 5 LA.

**DISCUSSION:**  
First 5 LA began the month with a cash balance of \$537.7 million. During the month, we received \$10.2 million in revenues. We had \$1.4 million in operating expenditures, \$24.0 million in program expenditures, and \$708,253 in pass-through expenditures. As a result, First 5 LA ended the month with a cash balance of \$521.9 million.

This report includes detailed financial information for the month ending January 31, 2016. The financial statements are unaudited and reported as a "soft close." All materials in this packet and check registers are available online. Statements in this report include the following:

- Revenue and Expense Statement: Summarizes financial statements to highlight the starting cash balance, revenues received, program and operating expenses, and the ending cash balance for the month.
- Balance Sheet: Provides a "snapshot" view of the Commission's assets, liabilities and fund balance as of January 31, 2016.
- Detailed operating and program expenditures: Shows expenses against the FY 2015-16 Budget approved on June 11, 2015, concluding with a report of expenditures related to programs functioning as pass-through agreements.

**Los Angeles County Children and Family First -  
Proposition 10 Commission (aka) First 5 LA  
Revenue and Expense Statement  
January 31, 2016, Unaudited**

	<b>REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES</b>	
<b>Cash Balance as of December 31, 2015</b>	<b>\$ 537,744,369</b>	
<b>Revenue</b>		
Monthly State Allotments	\$ 8,286,728	(1)
State Commission Matching Grant - Cares Program	-	
Medi-Cal Administrative Activities (MAA)	-	
State Commission - Other Program Funds	-	
Interest Income - Unreserved	416,949	
Investment Income - Other	-	
Rental Revenue - La Petite	16,963	
Partnerships for Families (PFF) - LA County Dept. of Children and Family Services (DCFS)	1,464,220	
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 10,184,860</b>	
<b>Expenses</b>		
<b>Program Budget (Attachment A)</b>		
2015-2020 Strategic Plan: Focusing For The Future	\$ 2,962,111	
Legacy Investments	20,168,148	
Research and Evaluation	825,588	
<b>Total Initiative/Program Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 23,955,847</b>	
<b>Pass-Through (Attachment B)</b>		
Medi-Cal Administrative Activities (MAA)	\$ -	
Child Signature Program (CSP)	-	
Partnerships for Families (PFF) - LA County Dept. of Children and Family Services (DCFS)	708,253	
<b>Total Pass-Through Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 708,253</b>	
<b>Operation and Administration (Attachment C)</b>		
Personnel	\$ 1,133,222	
General Operating	114,861	
Professional Services	32,551	
Consultant Services	58,455	
Travel & Meetings	21,908	
Capital Improvements	23,304	
<b>Total Operation and Administration</b>	<b>\$ 1,384,301</b>	
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 26,048,401</b>	
<b>Variance (Revenues - Expenses)</b>	<b>\$ (15,863,541)</b>	
<b>Cash Balance as of January 31, 2016</b>	<b>\$ 521,880,828</b>	(2)

**NOTE:**

- 1) Tobacco Tax Revenue for November 2015.
- 2) Cash Balance excludes fixed assets and liabilities.

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY CHILDREN AND FAMILY FIRST - PROPOSITION 10 COMMISSION (AKA FIRST 5 LA)**  
**PROGRAM EXPENDITURES BY FY 2015-16 BUDGET**  
**JANUARY 31, 2016, UNAUDITED**

INITIATIVE/PROGRAM	FY 2015-16 BUDGET*	JANUARY EXPENDITURES	FISCAL YTD EXPENDITURES	BALANCE REMAINING
<b>2015-2020 STRATEGIC PLAN: FOCUSING FOR THE FUTURE</b>				
Investments and Approaches Reaffirmed by the Board and Aligned with SP				
Families: Placed-Based - Welcome Baby/Select Home Visiting	36,603,000	1,775,899	10,569,095	26,033,905
Communities: Place-Based - Community Capacity Building	17,029,000	802,029	3,516,043	13,512,957
Policy Agenda/Advocacy	2,797,000	83,227	306,107	2,490,893
Communications & Marketing	4,672,000	23,596	298,412	4,373,588
Communications - Conference Funding	200,000	12,500	94,805	105,195
Existing Investments Potentially Aligned with SP				
Healthy Kids	2,250,000	40,727	496,679	1,753,321
Information Resource and Referral	1,360,000	197,037	588,351	771,649
New Investments Under Development (Strategic Plan Implementation Fund)				
Families	636,000	-	-	636,000
Communities	1,093,750	3,555	3,729	1,090,021
Early Care & Education (ECE) Systems	370,000	13,586	76,363	293,637
Health, Mental Health & Substance Abuse Systems	546,250	-	55	546,195
Other/Cross - Cutting Activities	490,000	9,955	10,073	479,927
<b>LEGACY INVESTMENTS</b>				
At-Risk Fathers Investment	150,000	-	-	150,000
Baby Friendly Hospitals	1,245,000	22,296	177,857	1,067,143
Black Infant Health	1,955,000	107,657	346,959	1,608,041
Children's Dental Care	10,656,000	1,464,704	3,832,212	6,823,788
Children's Vision Care	1,341,000	193,041	771,590	569,410
Early Identification and Intervention - Autism and other Developmental Delays	818,000	103,117	371,143	446,857
ECE Environmental Scan	80,000	-	-	80,000
Healthy Food Access	2,064,000	114,051	572,770	1,491,230
Little by Little/One Step Ahead	3,515,000	-	1,107,250	2,407,750
Los Angeles Universal Preschool (LAUP)	55,423,000	16,769,785	19,453,620	35,969,380
Oral Health & Nutrition - Dental Home	3,904,000	-	924,250	2,979,750
Parent Child Interaction Therapy	4,642,000	-	363,869	4,278,131
Partnerships for Families (PFF)	150,000	-	-	150,000
Peer Support Groups for Parents	1,469,000	26,638	469,513	999,487
Policy Advocacy Fund	2,194,000	235,182	845,671	1,348,329
Reducing Childhood Obesity	15,462,000	-	1,274,156	14,187,844
Resource Mobilization - ECE	1,225,000	16,955	177,289	1,047,711
Resource Mobilization - Funder Partnership	60,000	-	32,474	27,526
Resource Mobilization - Health	1,540,000	-	53,336	1,486,664
Resource Mobilization - Organizational Capacity Building	550,000	-	188,224	361,776
Resource Mobilization - Project Development	-	-	4,139	(4,139)
Tot Parks and Trails	660,000	-	-	660,000
Universal Assessment of Newborns	8,785,000	310,509	2,229,427	6,555,573
Workforce Development	2,522,000	108,087	363,722	2,158,279
Workforce Development - ECE Workforce Consortium	12,798,000	696,127	2,126,824	10,671,176
<b>RESEARCH AND EVALUATION</b>				
Data Development and Integration	2,527,000	158,238	824,972	1,702,028
Data Partnership with Funders	900,000	387,745	387,745	512,255
Program Evaluation	4,240,000	279,605	1,502,369	2,737,631
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>208,922,000</b>	<b>23,955,847</b>	<b>54,361,093</b>	<b>154,560,907</b>

\* The FY 2015-16 Budget was approved by the Board of Commissioners on June 11, 2015

**NOTES -PROGRAM EXPENDITURES BY FY 2015-16 BUDGET:**

Journal entries for FY 2014-15 accrued expenses were reversed in July 2015. The amounts reported are the actual program expenditures for January 2016.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CHILDREN AND FAMILY FIRST - PROPOSITION 10 COMMISSION (AKA FIRST 5 LA)  
 EXPENDITURES - PASS-THROUGH  
 JANUARY 31, 2016, UNAUDITED

Attachment B

INITIATIVE/PROGRAM - PASS-THROUGH	JANUARY EXPENDITURES	YEAR TO DATE EXPENDITURES
Medi-Cal Administrative Activities (MAA) - LA County Charges	-	-
Medi-Cal Administrative Activities (MAA) - Participation Payment	-	13,656
Child Signature Program (CSP)	-	-
Partnerships For Families - LA County Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS)	708,253	3,649,393
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>708,253</b>	<b>3,663,050</b>

**Los Angeles County Children and Family First -  
Proposition 10 Commission (aka) First 5 LA  
Operating & Administrative Budget Update  
January 31, 2016, Unaudited**

<b>OPERATION AND ADMINISTRATION EXPENSE</b>	<b>JANUARY ACTUAL</b>	<b>FISCAL YTD ACTUAL</b>	<b>FY 2015-16 BUDGET</b>	<b>FISCAL YTD VARIANCE</b>
<b>Personnel Related Expenses</b>				
Salaries & Wages	834,074	6,045,324	12,387,038	6,341,714
Fringe Benefits	299,148	1,873,161	3,980,943	2,107,782
	<b>1,133,222</b>	<b>7,918,485</b>	<b>16,367,981</b>	<b>8,449,496</b>
<b>General Operating Expenses</b>				
ADP Payroll Charges	1,869	13,638	31,000	17,362
Workers Compensation Insurance	-	(6,690)	100,000	106,690
Corporate Insurance	-	28,999	76,000	47,001
Mileage Expense	4,187	25,520	61,850	36,330
Telephones & Modems	4,727	32,483	65,000	32,517
Printing	2,969	10,357	19,200	8,843
Postage & Delivery	1,100	8,807	13,300	4,493
Office Supplies	4,731	36,516	83,980	47,464
Subscriptions & Publication	428	1,988	10,060	8,072
Equipment Rental	7,738	55,144	118,200	63,056
Repair & Maintenance - Furniture & Fixtures	13,949	139,241	180,000	40,759
Repair & Maintenance - Equipment	-	2,205	32,000	29,795
Rents & Lease - Offsite Storage	473	11,830	23,700	11,870
Los Angeles County Overhead	-	11,725	27,000	15,275
Contingency	3,619	34,912	75,000	40,088
Facilities & Other Supplies	-	5,078	12,150	7,072
Utilities	11,426	113,275	155,000	41,725
Educational Supplies	78	419	5,300	4,881
Cell Phones	2,957	19,191	52,250	33,059
Hardware & Software Maintenance	54,608	103,871	258,000	154,129
	<b>114,861</b>	<b>648,509</b>	<b>1,398,990</b>	<b>750,481</b>
<b>Professional Services</b>				
Audit and Accounting Fees	-	46,780	70,000	23,220
Legal Fees	8,653	49,004	175,000	125,996
Membership Dues	9,379	14,480	82,100	67,620
Professional Development	11,035	24,815	210,800	185,985
Professional Dues First 5 Association	-	-	50,000	50,000
Staff Recruitment	497	7,668	25,000	17,332
Commission Stipends	-	8,700	34,000	25,300
Human Resources Related Costs	2,987	17,253	68,000	50,747
	<b>32,551</b>	<b>168,701</b>	<b>714,900</b>	<b>546,199</b>
<b>Consultant Services</b>				
Consultant Fees	27,910	337,829	1,491,000	1,153,171
Other Professional Fees	25,745	176,582	237,500	60,918
External Reviewers	4,800	11,210	5,000	(6,210)
	<b>58,455</b>	<b>525,621</b>	<b>1,733,500</b>	<b>1,207,879</b>
<b>Travel &amp; Meetings</b>				
State Prop 10 Commission Activities	275	320	40,000	39,680
Conferences - Travel & Lodging	3,112	18,942	86,242	67,300
Conference - Registration Fees	10,730	42,237	89,485	47,248
Local Meeting Expenses	3,018	19,805	115,900	96,095
Lodging	2,312	22,050	84,876	62,826
Per Diem	2,462	12,990	42,488	29,498
	<b>21,908</b>	<b>116,344</b>	<b>458,991</b>	<b>342,647</b>
<b>Capital Improvements</b>				
Capital Outlay (Equipment Purchases)	23,304	24,450	120,000	95,550
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>1,384,301</b>	<b>9,402,110</b>	<b>20,794,362</b>	<b>11,392,252</b>

**NOTES - OPERATING & ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET UPDATE:**

*The administrative expenses are within the maximum authorized under the Board policy.*

\* The FY 2015-16 Operating Budget was approved by the Board of Commissioners on June 11, 2015.

**Los Angeles County Children and Families First -  
Proposition 10 Commission  
Statement of Net Assets  
January 31, 2016, Unaudited**

<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Current Assets:</b>		
Cash	\$	4,853,014
Cash- Morlin Mgmt Corp		26,950
Investment:		
Operating and Allocated funds		461,950,544
Operating Fund - SRI		-
Advance - LA Care Health Plan		8,619,621
Advance - LAUP		40,915,826
Advance - UCLA Dental Home Project		3,343,591
Interest Receivable		-
Other Receivables		44,891
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>519,754,437</b>
<b>Fixed Assets:</b>		
Land	\$	2,039,000
Building & Improvements		12,076,512
Furniture & Fixtures		627,671
Computer, Software & Accessories		1,755,170
Office Equipment		331,033
Accumulated Depreciation		(4,944,345)
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>11,885,041</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>531,639,478</b>
<b>Liabilities and Net Assets</b>		
<b>Current liabilities:</b>		
Other Liabilities	\$	215,445 (1)
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>215,445</b>
<b>Net Assets:</b>		
Investment in capital assets	\$	11,885,041
Restricted		519,538,992
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>531,424,033</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>531,639,478</b>

**NOTES:**

(1) Other Liabilities include accounts payable, security deposit from La Petite Academy and other related liabilities.

FIRST 5 LA

**SUBJECT:**  
Contract for approval

**RECOMMENDATION:**  
Approve one new agreement and authorize staff to complete final execution of the agreement.

**BACKGROUND:**  
First 5 LA's approved programmatic budget for FY 2015-16 totals \$208,922,000 and the approved operating budget totals \$20,794,362. Funding for all initiatives and programs was included in the budget presented to the Board on May 14, 2015 and approved on June 11, 2015. For contracts that span fiscal years, the estimated spending amount for each fiscal year will be included in First 5 LA's annual budgets for approval. Pursuant to contract terms, if the Commission does not appropriate funds for the contract in future fiscal years, First 5 LA may terminate the contract. Upon approval of the agreement presented below, staff will complete final execution.

There is one new agreement under the *Best Start Communities'* Community Capacity Building Initiative with Harder + Company Community Research, Inc. The Contractor will work with Best Start staff to align all Building Stronger Families (BSF) Grantee activities with the Results Based Accountability (RBA) framework and provide coordinated support in implementing RBA to the BSF Grantees in each Best Start Community. RBA uses a data-driven, decision-making process to help communities and organizations to assess progress and make ongoing improvements to achieve outcomes. Understanding the community context, having knowledge of the data that informed the Partnerships' decision-making, and engaging the Community Partnership in ongoing learning and reflection as data are collected and analyzed are all important aspects of operationalizing RBA. Through this project, First 5 LA is seeking to increase grantees' understanding of RBA, implement a standard approach in the development, tracking and reporting of performance measures, ensure that Grantees are effectively engaging Community Partnership members in ongoing learning, and support the 14 BSF grantees in identifying appropriate evaluation resources, whether they be internal or external to the organization.

**West Athens Best Start Building Stronger Families – Update**

As of February 2016, contracts have been executed with grantees to lead the implementation of community-identified Building Stronger Families (BSF) activities for 13 of 14 Best Start communities. The process for identifying a grantee to lead the implementation of community-identified BSF activities in the Best Start West Athens community is in its final stages. It is expected that a selected grantee will be submitted to the Board for approval at its April 2016 Commission meeting.

**DISCUSSION:**  
Staff seeks the Commission's approval of the agreements summarized in Attachment A.

Attachment A  
March 2016

NEW AGREEMENTS										
DEPARTMENT	INITIATIVE AND PROGRAM	CONTRACT (PROJECT) INFORMATION	BOARD APPROVAL DATE	PROCUREMENT METHOD	PROJECT LENGTH	ESTIMATED TOTAL PROJECT COST	CONTRACT AMOUNT	ANTICIPATED CONTRACT START DATE	ANTICIPATED CONTRACT END DATE	ANTICIPATED PROJECT END DATE
Best Start Communities	Communities: Place-Based – Community Capacity Building / Partnership Capacity Building, Data & Learning Support	<p><b><u>HARDER + COMPANY COMMUNITY RESEARCH, INC.</u></b>                      The Building Stronger Families (BSF) Grantees across all 14 Best Start communities fulfill a critical function in advancing the programmatic work of the Best Start Communities. The Contractor will work closely with Best Start staff to align all BSF Grantee activities with the Results Based Accountability (RBA) framework and provide coordinated support in implementing RBA to the BSF Grantees in each Best Start Community. RBA uses a data-driven, decision-making process to help communities and organizations to assess progress and make ongoing improvements to achieve outcomes. Understanding the community context, having knowledge of the data that informed the Partnerships' decision-making, and engaging the Community Partnership in ongoing learning and reflection as data are collected and analyzed are all important aspects of operationalizing RBA. Through this project, First 5 LA is seeking to increase grantees' understanding of RBA, implement a standard approach in the development, tracking and reporting of performance measures, ensure that Grantees are effectively engaging Community Partnership members in ongoing learning, and support the 14 BSF grantees in identifying appropriate evaluation resources, whether they be internal or external to the organization.</p>	6/11/2015	Procurement Exception	8 months	\$146,995	\$146,995  Estimated FY 15-16 Spending \$100,000  Impact to FY 16-17 Budget \$46,995	3/18/2016	11/18/2016	11/18/2016 112

FIRST 5 LA

**SUBJECT:**

**Request to Contract with Los Angeles County Office of Education for Evaluation of the California State Preschool Program (CSPP) Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) Block Grant**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

This memo was provided as information for the Board's consideration at the February 25, 2016 Special Meeting of the Board of Commissioners/Program and Planning Committee meeting. First 5 LA staff recommends that the Board authorize staff to receive funds and execute a contract with the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) for First 5 LA to manage the evaluation of the California State Preschool Program (CSPP) Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS), also known as Quality Start Los Angeles (QSLA).

**BACKGROUND:**

The purpose of this memo is to provide an overview of the CSPP QRIS, details of the proposed contract with LACOE and the rationale for the staff recommendation for First 5 LA to undertake this work.

*Overview of CSPP QRIS*

Quality Start Los Angeles (QSLA) is the locally branded Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) being implemented in L.A. County through funding from the California State Preschool Program (CSPP) QRIS block grant. The CSPP QRIS block grant was established in 2014 by Senate Bill 858 which authorizes \$50 million of Proposition 98 funds to support local early learning QRIS efforts that increase the number of low-income children in high quality state preschool programs that prepare those children for success in school and life. The L.A. County QRIS Consortium is the local planning body for CSPP QRIS and is comprised of representatives from the Los Angeles County Office of Education, Los Angeles County Office of Child Care (LAC-OCC), Los Angeles Universal Preschool (LAUP), Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles (CCALA) (representing L.A. County Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies) and First 5 LA. LACOE is the lead agency for CSPP QRIS.

CSPP QRIS began its second year of implementation in January 2016. Key areas of focus for Year 2 include increasing the number of participating providers, educating families and the public on the elements of high quality early childhood education and benefits to children, standardizing key programmatic elements including coaching and incentives, and expanding the use of the QSLA database.

*CSPP QRIS Evaluation Contract*

LACOE, as the lead agency for CSPP QRIS, approached First 5 LA about designing and managing the evaluation of the CSPP QRIS Block Grant. The CSPP QRIS partner agencies value First 5 LA's neutral role given that we are not implementing any component of the system and also view First 5 LA as a leader in designing and managing evaluations of complex early learning initiatives. Furthermore, given First 5 LA's role as a convener of the QRIS Architects through First 5 CA IMPACT funding, we play an important role. Staff intend to select and oversee a contractor to carry out the evaluation.

The primary activities in the proposed Scope of Work (SOW) are (a) facilitating discussions regarding the design and implementation of the evaluation, (b) developing an evaluation plan that outlines the study design and methods for Year 2 of CSPP QRIS, (c) developing data collection instruments and gathering data, (d) analyzing the data and preparing an evaluation report and (e) disseminating findings and promoting use for program improvement and decision making. The contract period would span March to September 2016, with a budget of \$100,000.

#### *First 5 LA Role*

First 5 LA's proposed role as the CSPP QRIS evaluator provides a unique opportunity to leverage learning from past work and the research and evaluation expertise of First 5 LA staff. The CSPP QRIS evaluation will be informed by and build on our investments in and evaluations of other similar QRISs in L.A. County including LAUP and the Steps to Excellence Program. Furthermore, the learning that will occur as a result of this evaluation will inform the QRIS systems building work that First 5 LA is leading through its role as convener of the QRIS Architects process.

#### **GOVERNANCE GUIDELINES: LEVERAGING AND SUSTAINABILITY**

This project is a time-limited, deliverables based project, with First 5 LA serving as the contracted agent. As such, it does not require sustainability or leveraging considerations. The project work will be executed according to the negotiated SOW and will be considered final upon completion of those objectives.

#### **NEXT STEPS:**

Staff have negotiated a SOW and budget with LACOE for the evaluation of Year 2 of CSPP QRIS. Pending Board approval at the March 10, 2016 Commission meeting, staff will move forward with executing a contract with LACOE to begin March 14, 2016.

FIRST 5 LA

**SUBJECT:**

**Request to Establish a New Strategic Partnership with the Glen Price Group (GPG) in the Amount of \$170,000 and Authorize First 5 LA Staff to Execute a Contract for up to \$170,000.**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

This memo was provided as information for the Board's consideration at the February 25, 2016 Special Meeting of the Board of Commissioners/Program and Planning Committee (PPC) meeting. First 5 LA staff recommends that at the March 10, 2016 Commission meeting, the Board approve the establishment of a new Strategic Partnership with GPG for facilitation of the L.A. Campaign Grade Level Reading (GLR) School Readiness Workgroup (SRW) for a period of fifteen months for an amount not to exceed \$170,000. First 5 LA staff also recommends that the Commission authorize staff to execute a contract from April 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017 for an amount not to exceed \$170,000. The funds to be expended in the current fiscal year have been included in the First 5 LA FY 2015-2016 Programmatic Budget under Resource Mobilization-ECE. Funding for subsequent fiscal years will be requested as part of First 5 LA's annual budgeting process.

**BACKGROUND:**

First 5 LA's guiding "north star" is for all children in LA County to enter kindergarten ready to succeed in school and life. As such, the 2015-2020 Strategic Plan includes multiple investment strategies for advancing school readiness. This proposed strategic partnership with GPG for continued facilitation of the SRW represents one specific contract and project—among a diversified portfolio of First 5 LA efforts—to support school readiness through policy and systems change as well as direct services (i.e. Welcome Baby, Select Home Visitation). While the GLR SRW will be managed under the (Early Care and Education) ECE Outcome Area, First 5 LA's support for and participation in the SRW is aligned with and complementary to school readiness work across each of the four outcomes areas: families, communities, health and ECE.

Further, as discussed at the February 25, 2016, Special Meeting of the Board of Commissioners/PPC meeting, the work of the SRW provides an opportunity for stakeholders to elevate and address the need for greater alignment between developmentally appropriate early learning practices and principles and the more rigorous, academic focus of the K-12 system. As an example, the SRW has identified kindergarten readiness as an area for focused attention. Kindergarten readiness assessments (KRAs) can help support teachers to tailor their instruction to individual student needs as well as help policy makers craft policies and reforms that address readiness gaps identified at a population level. In LA County, there is variation in the KRA tools used, the developmental domains assessed, and the purposes for which the tools are used and valued. The SRW, informed by the First 5 LA-funded research of Children Now, provides a county-wide table for systematically thinking through and driving towards consensus on supporting both students and schools in this pivotal period of a child's transition to kindergarten. In addition, First 5 LA staff will be bringing this research to the PPC for further discussion and direction.

**Grade Level Reading:**

The [GLR Campaign](#) is a nationwide effort, conceived and launched by the Annie E. Casey Foundation in 2012—with the goal that by 2020, a dozen or more states will increase by at least 100 percent the number of children from low-income families reading proficiently by the end of third grade. The GLR Campaign is taking a collective impact approach to address the complex issue of achieving third grade reading proficiency. Collective impact is based on the idea that by working across sectors, having a common agenda, common measures for success, mutually reinforcing activities, continuous communication among stakeholders and backbone/infrastructure support, there is greater potential to achieve long-term social change.

The GLR Campaign has three focus areas by which communities can address this challenge:

- School Readiness—children enter kindergarten ready to succeed in school
- Chronic Absence—children regularly attend school
- Summer Learning Loss—children are engaged in summer learning

The National GLR Campaign provides an organizing framework for a network of local community campaigns across the country. Convened and funded at the local level, these cross-sector coalitions have come together to support the GLR Campaign's third grade reading goal. As part of the network, GLR communities receive technical assistance, access to research, and peer learning opportunities aligned with the three GLR focus areas.

To date, 232 communities from 42 states—as well as the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands—are participating in the GLR Campaign, including LA County. Statewide, First 5 Commissions participate at varying degrees in local GLR Campaigns in Alameda, Contra Costa, Fresno, LA, Kern, Monterey, Sacramento, San Diego, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, San Joaquin, Stanislaus and Placer Counties.

The opportunity to join the GLR Campaign was championed by the LA Area Chamber of Commerce (Chamber) as a strategy to help support and promote the cradle to career continuum in LA County. In 2013, First 5 LA joined the Chamber, Families In Schools, Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) and other local ECE stakeholders to establish the LA GLR Campaign. The LA GLR Campaign is locally focused on improving 3<sup>rd</sup> grade reading proficiency for students in LA County through policy change, system coordination and alignment, and parent engagement. The LA GLR Campaign formed three strategic workgroups to support each of the Campaign's focus areas: school readiness, attendance and summer learning.

Given the alignment of the LA GLR Campaign's School Readiness focus area with F5LA's vision and strategies outlined in the 2015-2020 Strategic Plan, First 5 LA initiated the convening of the SRW. Last year, First 5 LA identified the Glen Price Group as a critical partner to support the launch and facilitation of the School Readiness Workgroup, and thus established a Strategic Partnership for a period of 12-months (3/1/15-2/28/16) in the amount of \$74,625. First 5 LA's investment was leveraged by The LA Partnership for Early Childhood Investment (LA Partnership), which contributed \$25,000 to the project.

Launched in March 2015, the charge of the SRW is to increase the number of low-income children in LA County who enter kindergarten ready for school. The SRW includes a diversity of systems-level actors from multiple sectors, all with a common interest in improving school readiness for children in LA County. The current SRW membership represents 23 organizations including foundations, nonprofits, school districts, city/county agencies, colleges, advocacy organizations and the business sector. Membership is evolving, as additional member organizations are identified by the workgroup and invited to join.

The Glen Price Group guided the workgroup through an iterative process to support the selection of priorities that utilize the mutually reinforcing activities and common agenda components of the collective impact approach. The SRW ultimately identified three priorities for which the SRWs' respective organizations commit to collectively support to improve school readiness. The priorities include advancing policies and systems that:

- Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (KRA): Support the adoption and implementation of a countywide KRA
- Quality Rating Improvement Systems (QRIS): Increase the number of programs participating in QRIS
- Family Engagement: Effectively engage families to support school readiness in the home

Based on the collective identification of the three priorities, the SRW formed subgroups for each priority. Each subgroup then developed objectives and activities, identified key tasks, responsible parties and

timelines to support implementation. Additional workgroup members are identified and invited to join the SRW as the action plans are refined.

The GPG team has been a key partner to F5LA in guiding and facilitating a strategic focus to the SRW's progress to date. In order to sustain this momentum, staff is seeking Board approval to continue working with GPG through FY 16-17. When First 5 LA initially contracted with GPG, staff developed a scope and budget based on the anticipated the level of engagement in the SRW by our local stakeholders and the projected number of priorities the workgroup would identify to support. Since the successful SRW launch, we have worked with GPG to expand their scope to support the full needs of the SRW. This expanded scope was made possible by a \$25K investment by the LA Partnership. The combined investment from F5LA and the LA Partnership will be fully expended by the end of February 2016.

First 5 LA is seeking Board approval to continue our investment in the SRW through a Strategic Partnership and 15-month contract with GPG, beginning April 1, 2016 and ending June 30, 2017. The LA Partnership for Early Childhood Investment also recently approved an additional \$30,000 in grant funding to support GPG's SRW-related activities as of March 1, 2016—which prevents any lapse in support and ensures forward movement of the SRW.

The proposed budget is informed by GPG's current scope and burn rate, and covers the following areas.

Primary Work Areas	Illustrative Activities
Communication and Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop detailed work plan of areas of work, specific activities, timeframe and responsible parties</li> <li>• Maintain regular communication with First 5 LA staff, subgroup leaders, and broader workgroup membership</li> <li>• Organize and facilitate communicate within and among subgroups</li> <li>• Support communication efforts with other statewide policy, advocacy, and systems-change efforts to inform and align with the SRW</li> </ul>
Meeting design, facilitation, and follow up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create meeting designs, materials and agendas for workgroup and subgroup meetings and calls</li> <li>• Facilitate workgroup and subgroup meetings and calls</li> <li>• Design and facilitate orientation sessions for new members</li> <li>• Summarize, theme, and analyze meeting notes and synthesize meeting output</li> <li>• Disseminate next steps and action items, track and monitor deliverables and responsible parties</li> </ul>
Reports and documentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Track, measure and report on progress of SRW subgroups achieving outcomes and objectives articulated in each of the three subgroup action plans</li> <li>• Develop and share mid-year and annual SRW progress reports</li> <li>• Create external communications materials to share the SRW's work</li> <li>• Support subgroups in refining action plans</li> <li>• Support development of future action steps for the SRW</li> </ul>
Planning and Implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support SRW to implement necessary tasks and activities identified as planning and implementations progresses. This could include, but is not limited to:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Communication supports for messaging the SRW's work with external groups and stakeholders</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Facilitation and planning support for events or additional meetings with external groups and stakeholders</li> <li>○ Support for subgroup work beyond the currently identified tasks</li> <li>○ Support for additional work teams that emerge</li> <li>○ Completing additional research and/or documentation support not currently identified</li> <li>● Work to build capacity of local stakeholders to assume and sustain SRW backbone functions now held by GPG and First 5 LA</li> </ul>
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Pursuant to the Procurement Policy, Strategic Partners of \$75,000 or more in a fiscal year must be presented to the Board for approval. Staff is requesting approval to establish a strategic partnership to comply with this policy. Section IV.5 of the Procurement Policy also states that contracts of \$75,000 or more requires Board approval prior to execution. Staff is seeking approval to execute a contract for the period of April 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017 for up to \$170,000.

**GOVERNANCE GUIDELINES: LEVERAGING AND SUSTAINABILITY:**

First 5 LA’s investment in GPG supports the design and implementation of SRW action plans that seek to advance policy and systemic change for sustained impact. GPG will continue to guide and facilitate the SRW’s engagement in order to support and sustain the momentum of local GLR Campaign efforts.

First 5 LA plans to continue to collaborate with a broad range of stakeholders, including the Chamber and LA Partnership, to develop and sustain a participatory stakeholder engagement and partnership development strategy to attain long term buy-in of and support for the SRW efforts.

The following outlines how First 5 LA will address the implementation of the sustainability and leveraging components of the First 5 LA Governance Guidelines approved by the Board in March 2014.

**PROJECT OUTCOMES & OBJECTIVES**

- First 5 LA funds will enable GPG to support the ongoing convening, action planning and implementation of the SRW’s KRA, QRIS and Parent Engagement action plans.
- First 5 LA and GPG will track and measure progress of SRW subgroups achieving outcomes and objectives articulated in each of the three subgroup action plans.

**OUTCOMES & OBJECTIVES SUSTAINED BEYOND FIRST 5 LA INVESTMENT**

- First 5 LA’s investment in GPG supports the design and implementation of SRW action plans that seek to advance policy and systemic change for sustained impact.

**ACTIONS TO SUPPORT SUSTAINABILITY**

- The SRW action plans seek to leverage, coordinate and align with existing county and statewide efforts and resources that will help achieve the KRA, QRIS and Parent Engagement subgroups’ objectives for policy and systems change.
- GPG will work to build the capacity of local stakeholders to assume and sustain SRW backbone functions now held by GPG and First 5 LA.
- Organizations will be identified by the workgroup(s) and invited to join the SRW as the action plans are refined and implemented. These members will commit to collectively support to improve school readiness based on priorities that focus on policy and systems change.
- Successful collaboration of nearly two dozen agencies who have committed to become active participants will help support the success and sustainability of project activities moving forward. These agencies are a key part of the local infrastructure to support the target outcomes of the SRW.

## LEVERAGED RESOURCES

- First 5 LA's investment leverages fiscal and nonfiscal resources invested by the Annie E. Casey Foundation to launch and lead the National GLR Campaign—including ongoing technical assistance, access to research and data, peer learning opportunities, and convenings—as well as other investors and partners who provide financial support to the national effort.
- At a local level, First 5 LA leverages the in-kind resources 23 agencies have committed as active participants in the SRW. Each member dedicates a minimum of three hours per month to participate in SRW meetings/calls in addition to assuming tasks outlined in the subgroup action plans.
- First 5 LA's investment in the SRW serves as a catalyst for other local ECE funders, including the LA Partnership which has committed a total of \$55,000 funding to support the SRW.
- Implementation of action plans will utilize data and learning from other First 5 LA investments, such as the KRA L.A. County Landscape Report conducted by Children Now and the LA Chamber's work on initial stakeholder engagement in support of a common KRA in L.A. County.

## JUSTIFICATION:

### **This Strategic Partnership meets the criteria below:**

- The Strategic Partnership can provide specific resources needed by First 5 LA to implement an approved program or initiative in a manner or on a scale that makes the Strategic Partnership more cost effective than resources provided through a competitive solicitation; or
- The Strategic Partnership can implement an approved program or initiative more expeditiously than resources provided through a competitive solicitation; or
- The Strategic Partnership can provide a demonstrated level of ability or expertise that is only available in the community through the proposed Strategic Partnership; or
- The Strategic Partnership provides an opportunity to leverage First 5 LA funds to produce additional funding for the program or initiative or service.

### **AND**

- The proposed Strategic Partnership is aligned with the adopted Strategic Plan.

The strategic partner, GPG, collectively brings over 100 years of experience serving government and community-based organizations as professionals, elected officials, and volunteers. GPG has extensive experience facilitating participatory stakeholder engagement and partnership development, which are critical functions needed to launch and support the Workgroup. GPG team has extensive unique experience in the area of ECE, including:

- LA Campaign for Grade Level Reading: School Readiness Workgroup (First 5 LA, 2015-present)
- Early Learning Collaborative (Packard Foundation, 2015-present)
- State Superintendent's Accountability and Continuous Improvement Task Force (CDE Foundation, 2015-present)
- Landscape Analysis and Mapping of Oakland's Programs and Services Supporting Informal Caregivers (Oakland Education Fund, 2015-present)
- Governmental Grant Support for LAUP (2015-present)
- Stakeholder Input on First 5 IMPACT and associated Training and Technical Assistance Hubs (First 5 California, 2014-2015)
- California's Preschool Expansion Grant and Early Head Start Child Care Partnership Applications (2014)
- Oakland and Fresno Unified School Districts Starting Smart and Strong Proposals (2014)
- Los Angeles Universal Preschool (LAUP) Strategic and Business Planning (2014)

- First 5 California Stakeholder Engagement and Strategic Plan Development (2014)
- Los Angeles Preschool Advocacy Initiative (LAPAI) Coalition Building and Policy Agenda Development (2014)
- California Comprehensive Early Learning Plan, California Department of Education (CDE) (2013)
- Looking Forward: The Early Childhood Action Messaging Campaign (Bay Area Council, 2013)
- County of Solano First 5 Futures Fund Development Planning (2012)
- Race to the Top Early Learning Challenge Application (CDE, 2011)

First 5 LA's continued investment in GPG is critical in order to sustain and build upon the momentum of the SRW and secure resources from other funding partners to support the SRW efforts. The establishment of this proposed Strategic Partnership with GPG will leverage the existing infrastructure of the SRW, established by First 5 LA and GPG, and ensures the workgroup moves into implementation most expeditiously.

The goals of the SRW are aligned with the adopted 2015-2020 Strategic Plan and directly support the ECE and Families Outcome Areas listed below.

<b>F5LA Strategies &amp; Activities</b>		<b>SRW Priority</b>
<b>ECE</b>	<p><b>Strategy 1: Advocate for greater public investment in quality early care and education with a focus on both infant/toddler care and pre-school.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partner to implement KRA in LA County to be used as platform for policy, fiscal and systems change</li> <li>• Support existing systems-level collaborative to improve access to quality ECE</li> </ul>	<p><b>KRA:</b> Adopt common KRA in LA County</p>
	<p><b>Strategy 2: Support implementation of a uniform Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) within L.A. County in order to build the evidence base to support advocacy and policy change.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate and complement other funding streams to support QRIS in LA County</li> <li>• Advocate for greater public investment in QRIS</li> </ul>	<p><b>QRIS:</b> Increase number of licensed ECE programs participating in QRIS</p>
<b>Families</b>	<p><b>Strategy 2: Pilot/promote the scaling of evidence-based parent engagement models that increase family protective factors in ECE settings.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop advocacy strategy to support parent engagement programs</li> </ul>	<p><b>Parent Engagement:</b> Identify indicators to measure effective family engagement in the home</p>

Pending Board approval at the March 10, 2016 Commission meeting, staff will move forward with executing a contract with GPG to begin April 1, 2016.

# Memo

To: Board of Commissioners

From: Kim Belshé, Executive Director

Date: March 10, 2016

Subject: **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S HIGHLIGHTS

To start, I want to highlight two important site visits that First 5 LA executive leadership, staff, and Commissioners participated in recent weeks.

First, First 5 LA organized a terrific event at the Citrus Valley-Queen of the Valley Hospital in West Covina. This meeting brought together First 5 LA staff, a number of our Commissioners, hospital leadership, Welcome Baby providers, community home visiting partners, and – most importantly – new parents who participated in the Welcome Baby program as well as their parent coaches. Also in attendance were elected officials, including the Mayor of El Monte, and staff representing county, state and federal officials. The event provided an excellent opportunity for attendees to hear directly from parents, who were generous in sharing their thoughts and experiences as new parents and how Welcome Baby is supporting their development and success as parents. Attendees also heard from hospital leaders, who spoke to the importance of Welcome Baby in improving child and parent outcomes alike. While the event highlighted the positive impact Welcome Baby is having on program participants, it also allowed us to emphasize an important message to elected officials and their staff – namely, that policy support will be needed to extend the reach of effective home visiting programs, such as Welcome Baby, to all new parents in LA County.

Second, as reported in my February report, First 5 LA leadership is committed to meeting with each of the 14 Best Start Communities Partnerships this winter and spring. Last month, the East Los Angeles (ELA) Community Partnership welcomed me, Commissioner Abdo, First 5 LA executives and staff, and representatives of elected officials to their Partnership meeting. It was a terrific opportunity to learn more about the work of the ELA Partnership, how they've gathered and used information and data to inform their partnership priorities (promote parent leadership, build awareness of parent stressors and connections to resources, and increase access to open space), and examples of concrete steps parents and residents are taking to inform County-wide conversations, such as the County parks assessment process. The energy and engagement of the partnership members was palpable. We were honored to be invited to the ELA community and are

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eager to support the Partnership's interest in connecting with elected officials and decision-makers on their policy priorities.

As First 5 LA leadership continues to visit Best Start Community Partnerships over the next few months, it is important for us to consider the question of the long-term sustainability of the Partnerships and their desired community outcomes. Towards that end, an interdepartmental workgroup, comprised of staff from Best Start, Research & Evaluation, Contracts, Communications and Marketing and Program Development, is guiding a process to examine different support structures for the Community Partnerships to strengthen the Partnerships' ability to be effective, sustainable vehicle for community change. We are building upon the lessons learned from the experience in Best Start Metro LA, our pilot community, and in the other 13 communities as well as other place-based efforts around the nation. One approach we are considering is working with partnership support organizations (also known as intermediary organizations) to provide Community Partnerships with a variety of supports, including logistical support, capacity building, and planning for community meetings and resource mobilization. Staff will conduct a county-wide environmental scan to identify agencies which have the interest and capability to serve as partnership support organizations. Information from this scan will provide staff with important information about such potential partners as well as their own potential capacity to inform the design of the Community Partnership's long term support structures. Staff will be engaging Community Partnerships in this process and will return to the Board this spring with learning from the environmental scan.

In other news, First 5 LA recently convened a meeting of early care and education (ECE) stakeholders to discuss *Help Me Grow* (HMG), a systems approach to identifying children at risk of developmental delays and behavioral problems and then helping families connect to community-based programs and services. As we know from federal and state research as well as from our work with LA Care Health Plan, far too many children are not receiving appropriate and timely screenings and are eluding detection of developmental delays and behavioral problems. The ECE community is comprised of strong advocates for promoting early identification, elevating the issue of screening and assessment of young children, and integrating referrals and care coordination into their work with families. We were excited by last week's meeting and the opportunity to explore how the ECE community can be involved in shaping HMG Los Angeles to make a positive impact on the lives of LA County's youngest children.

Finally, I wanted to share with the Commission my decision to participate on a number of Boards. First, I was invited to join the board of the Opportunity Institute, a new non-profit organization that promotes social mobility and equity by improving outcomes from early childhood through early career. I appreciate the opportunity to be a part of a diverse group of leaders in early childhood development, pre-K through 12 education, juvenile and criminal justice, and higher education to explore and advance cross-sector, evidence-based approaches to improving the life trajectory of our children. In addition, I've joined two private Boards: Blue Shield of California, a leading non-profit health plan, and Beacon Health Options, a managed behavioral health care organization. While I will serve on these Boards in a private capacity, I wanted to share this information in the spirit of transparency.

## **ORGANIZATION-WIDE ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS**

### **I. PERINATAL SUPPORT**

*No highlights to report this month.*

## II. PARENTING SUPPORT AND CHILD SAFETY

*No highlights to report this month.*

## III. PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH

### **First 5 LA Joins the Help Me Grow National Community**

First 5 LA celebrates a major highlight in the developing work connected to the Health-Related Systems Outcome area established in the 2015-20 Strategic Plan. In March 2016, First 5 LA, in partnership with LA CARE Health Plan, officially joined the Help Me Grow (HMG) national network as a learning community member. By doing so, LA County has effectively joined a community of HMG partners, all committed to promoting a systems approach to the healthy development of children, early detection and linkage to needed services in their states and localities. In this capacity, we will also be contributing to large-scale data collection/evaluation and policy/advocacy efforts. This significant milestone is a result of over a year of information-gathering, partnership-building and overall strategy development related to the Health-Related Systems outcome area strategy<sup>1</sup>: early identification of developmental/behavioral delays, screening and connection to services.

Nationwide, there are 25 state HMG affiliates. Given the size and complexity of the state of California, individual counties become affiliates, with the First 5 Association providing a lead coordinating role. Currently, there are 11 county affiliates and 18 learning community members. In becoming a learning community member, First 5 LA has committed to taking the necessary steps towards formally adopting the Help Me Grow framework in Los Angeles County, which includes implementing four core components (child health provider outreach, centralized access point, community and family outreach, data collection and analysis), and building a leadership body across an array of cross-sector system partners (including health and early care and education platforms).

Help Me Grow is a system that connects at-risk children with the services they need, and aims to improve the healthy development of all children by facilitating greater access and collaboration across sectors, supporting providers and families to promote early detection, and providing a central access point for child development information and referrals. More information can be found at the HMG national website, [www.helpmegrownational.org](http://www.helpmegrownational.org).

**Staff contact:** Faith Ramirez ([framirez@first5la.org](mailto:framirez@first5la.org))

### **ITUP Conference – February**

On February 9, First 5 LA staff attended the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Insure The Uninsured Project (ITUP) Conference. This year's conference, which marked ITUP's 20th anniversary, focused on steps to close the coverage gaps and move Californians into a culture of health and wellness. Two major themes presented throughout many of the panels and breakout sessions were the need to maximize use of new and existing opportunities, and the importance of incorporating community in health efforts. Some of the speakers presented a vision for the future of health reform, while others looked more closely at the progress made in improving both health systems and patient outcomes. First 5 LA staff took part in sessions that explored potential opportunities to meet health needs through the recently approved Medicaid 1115 waiver and to align the work of the state's largest healthcare purchasers: Medi-Cal, Covered California, and CalPERS.

During the event, ITUP also announced the appointment of its new Executive Director, Deborah Reidy Kelch, a health policy researcher and strategist with more than 30 years of experience with health care systems in California. Her professional experience includes 15 years as policy and fiscal staff to the California Legislature, including serving as Chief Consultant to the Assembly Health

Committee. Kelch replaces Lucien Wulsin, ITUP's founding Executive Director, who is retiring in mid-March after 45 years of statewide leadership.

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#### **Welcome Baby Site Visit**

On February 19, First 5 LA organized a Welcome Baby site visit at Citrus Valley-Queen of the Valley Hospital in West Covina. The purpose of the event was to spread the word about home visiting and build partners and champions in the effort to secure broader hospital and public support. The meeting included a tour of the Labor and Delivery wing and a conversation with a mother who had just delivered and was receiving Welcome Baby services. Meeting participants included a number of First 5 LA Commissioners as well as El Monte Mayor Andre Quintero, and staff from the offices of Congresswoman Grace Napolitano, Supervisor Sheila Kuehl, Supervisor Hilda Solis, Senator Ed Hernández and Assemblymember Cristina García. Parents participating in Welcome Baby spoke at the event and highlighted how the program impacted their lives and supported their development and success as parents.

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## **IV. SCHOOL READINESS**

#### **Early Learning Advocacy Day at the State Capitol**

On February 3, staff participated in the Early Learning Advocacy Day at the State Capitol, an event organized by a variety of advocacy groups, including the California Association for the Education of Young Children, Children Now, Early Edge California, and the First 5 Association, among others. The event focused largely on the Governor's January budget and concerns providers and advocates have with its system reform proposals. The day featured appearances by Speaker-elect Anthony Rendon, Senator and Chair of the Women's Caucus Hannah Beth Jackson, and included visits to legislators' offices.

#### **LAUSD Early Literacy Plan**

On February 25, First 5 LA participated in a meeting with LAUSD's Director of Elementary Education, Kathleen McGrath, who is spearheading the development of the district's early literacy plan. The goal of the plan is to ensure that all students read, write, speak and listen with efficiency and accuracy by the end of second grade. The plan elevates and recommends a seamless articulation between preschool and Transitional Kindergarten to 2<sup>nd</sup> grade with regard to curriculum, assessment, professional development and instruction. First 5 LA staff will continue to engage with LAUSD on the plan's development and implementation.

#### **Watercooler Conference**

First 5 LA staff participated in the Early Education Watercooler Conference sponsored by Advancement Project on February 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> in Sacramento. Conference featured speakers included Senate Pro Tem Kevin de León; Paul Tough, author of *How Children Succeed: Grit Curiosity, and the Hidden Power of Character*; David B. Grusky, the Director of Stanford's Center on Poverty and Inequity; and Dr. Patricia K. Kuhl, the Co-Director of the UW Institute for Learning & Brain Sciences. Additionally, the conference included panels on transitional and expanded transitional kindergarten, political will to advance early care and education, and how to effectively engage community to advocate for California's children, moderated by First 5 LA's Best Start Director Rafael Gonzalez.

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### **Welcoming LAUSD Superintendent Michelle King**

First 5 LA is partnering with the LA Chamber of Commerce, Unite LA, United Way, and other funders to host a series of welcome events and meetings with the new Superintendent of the Los Angeles Unified School District, Michelle King. The meetings will include a focus on, and highlight the need for, investment in early learning. After an initial reception and welcome event, First 5 LA staff will work with our partners at the district and the LA Chamber to host a policy discussion at an LAUSD early learning center.

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## **V. BEST START**

### **Region 1: East LA, South El Monte/El Monte, Central Long Beach**

In January, members of the East L.A. *Best Start* Community Partnership took part in the Los Angeles Countywide Comprehensive Parks & Recreation Needs Assessment where they had the opportunity to share about the needs of their community and influence park funding. Together with the Center for the Study of Social Policy Coach, the Building Stronger Families (BSF) Grantee, and the Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust, the Partnership organized a community training to prepare themselves to participate in this space. The *Best Start* Central Long Beach Leadership Team, which is comprised of parents, residents and non-profit representatives, had a planning retreat in January to outline their work for 2016. The retreat allowed the Leadership Team to review their capacity building plan for the year, plan future partnership meetings, and review governance guidelines.

### **Region 2: Southeast Los Angeles, Wilmington, Metro LA**

*Best Start* Southeast Los Angeles continued to develop their capacity building plan while engaging in conversations with the Building Stronger Families Grantee to provide input on implementation of their activities. The *Best Start* Wilmington Healthy Lifestyles Group committed to participating in a social media training to build their capacity and skills, with some participants interested in the train-the-trainer model and being editors for the *Best Start* Wilmington Facebook page. In *Best Start* Metro LA, the Building Stronger Families Culture of Respect Workshops continued throughout all nine of the Neighborhood Leadership Groups (NLG) with the participation of over 211 community members. The newest of the nine NLGs, Menlo, has been growing rapidly while reaching out to the African American and Asian communities and quickly integrating them into the partnership. *Best Start* Metro LA community residents also received a special donation of over 500 toys in celebration of the traditional Latin holiday *El Día de Los Reyes* (The Day of the Three Kings) from both Bank of America and Para Los Niños (PLN).

### **Region 3: Panorama City & Neighbors, Northeast Valley Community, Lancaster, Palmdale**

In mid-March *Best Start* Panorama City & Neighbors, in partnership with the Los Angeles Public Library, will host a Reading Workshop for *Best Start* Communications Workgroup members across all 14 communities. The workshop will focus on how to volunteer to read to children in local libraries, community schools, child care centers, etc. using the book "Potter the Otter: A Tale about Water." They will also be partnering with the *Best Start* Northeast Valley Community to host a table at the CicLAvia event in March. The *Best Start* Northeast Valley Community is participating in several events, including an Open House for the Foothill Police Station, CicLAvia, and a "Peace March" from Hubert Humphrey Park to the LAPD Foothill Division Station.

*Best Start* Palmdale coordinated with its Building Stronger Families Grantee, Antelope Valley Partners for Health, to hire Parent Navigators. The Parent Navigators are a component of their Building Stronger Families community strategies to create and maintain a team of parents and residents who assist in connecting isolated families with each other as well as formal and informal

supports. *Best Start* Lancaster began to identify activities and strategies to prevent child abuse in the Antelope Valley, including sponsoring the Darion Wheat Walk, an event to raise awareness about children killed by their caregivers, in April.

#### **Region 4: Broadway-Manchester, West Athens, Watts-Willowbrook, Compton-East Compton**

At its January Partnership meeting, *Best Start* West Athens featured a presentation on child development, including tips for parents to support early learning such as reading to their children. They continued this series of educational discussions by focusing on children with special needs at their February Partnership meeting, which included a speaker from the South Central Los Angeles Regional Center. In addition, they sponsored and participated in an outreach event called the Manhood Challenge, which provided activities for fathers, grandfathers, uncles and other male caregivers to interact and bond with the children in their lives. *Best Start* Watts-Willowbrook sponsored and participated in the 7th Annual Ride 4 Love, a family bike ride organized by the East Side Riders Bike Club. The event provided an opportunity to promote a healthy, family-bonding activity for residents, while encouraging social connections in the community.

*Best Start* Broadway-Manchester's Communications Workgroup began to plan its social media training, which will provide community members with the opportunity to learn about Facebook and manage the Partnership's Facebook page, as well as learn the basics of technology all the way to using social media as a movement-building tool to promote their overall goals. *Best Start* Compton-East Compton also began discussions on social media training. Their training will specifically have a train-the-trainer focus so that communications workgroup and Leadership group members can build their capacity to teach Partnership members. In addition, the Partnership has been moving forward with its work with El Nido, it's Building Stronger Families Grantee. The Advisory Committee is working with the organization to conduct parent cafe trainings for both teen parents and Partnership members, and began doing outreach to young parents to inform them of other opportunities that will be offered in the program, such as teen parent conferences, mentor trainings and advocacy trainings.

**Staff Contact:** Katie Kurutz ([kkurutz@first5la.org](mailto:kkurutz@first5la.org))

#### **Best Start Building Stronger Families Grantees – Update**

As of February 2016, contracts have been executed with grantees to lead the implementation of community-identified Building Stronger Families (BSF) activities for 13 of the 14 *Best Start* communities. The process for identifying a grantee to lead the implementation of community-identified BSF activities in the *Best Start* West Athens community is in its final stages. It is expected that a selected grantee will be submitted to the Board for approval at its April 2016 Commission meeting.

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#### **First 5 LA Leadership Visit to Best Start East Los Angeles**

The *Best Start* East LA Community Partnership meeting that took place on February 24 was a very important milestone for the Community Partnership. The Community Partnership had the opportunity to welcome Kim Belshé, Commissioner Judy Abdo, elected officials, and members of First 5 LA leadership. The Partnership meeting had 70 people in attendance who eagerly engaged in a conversation with Kim Belshé. The meeting was planned and facilitated by members of the Community Partnership's Advisory Committee that includes community residents and organizational representatives. They put in many hours in design a meeting that welcomed Kim Belshé into their community space, further integrated the BSF grantee with the Partnership, and identifying the next steps for continuing engaging in work that move them closer to reaching their goals related to Places & Spaces in East LA. The Advisory Committee members facilitating the meeting set a tone of respect, connection, and humor in welcoming Kim Belshé and First 5 LA leadership into their space

and it was graciously matched. The outcomes from this conversation for the community partnership were the following:

- a deeper understanding of First 5 LA's commitment to Best Start communities in relation to the Strategic Plan;
- an understanding of the important role that they as members of this community play in influencing system's change;
- feeling personally acknowledged by name;
- a deeper commitment to the Best Start effort; and
- a personal connection to First 5 LA's leadership which is key in building trust as we work in partnership with community.

As next steps, Rafael Gonzalez has accepted the community's invitation to continue in dialogue on community priorities, staff will work with CSSP and the community BSF grantee in identifying additional opportunities to engage elected officials and other populations of interest, as well as connect them to forums of influence as they develop policy priorities to pursue in relation to the outcomes they seek.

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### **Best Start at State and National Conferences**

Starting last month, Best Start staff presented and shared First 5 LA's place-based work and Building Stronger Families framework to state and national audiences at prominent conferences. Additional opportunities will occur this summer. These platforms include:

- *February 23<sup>rd</sup> – Advancement Project's 8th Annual Early Learning Water Cooler Conference*  
Rafael Gonzalez, Director of Best Start Communities moderated a panel "Elevating ECE Through Meaningful Community Partnerships" consisting of Sandra Gutierrez, National Director, Abriendo Puertas/Opening Doors; Mary Ignatius, Statewide Organizer of Parent Voices, California Child Care Resource & Referral Network; Jacquelyn McCroskey, John Milner Professor of Child Welfare, University of Southern California School of Social Work; and Jolene Smith, Chief Executive Officer, First 5 Santa Clara County. The conference was in Sacramento, CA.
- *June 7<sup>th</sup> – 2016 Collective Impact Forum Convening*  
Reuben de Leon, Senior Program Officer – Best Start Communities will be co-presenting with Jennifer Chheang of The California Endowment a workshop titled, "Authentic Engagement of Residents and Parents in a Place-Based Collective Impact Approach: An Equity Perspective from The California Endowment, First 5 LA, and City of Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) in Central Long Beach." Leanne Negron, Senior Program Officer – Best Start Communities will be presenting a workshop titled, "Leading Neighborhood & Community Change from the Inside Out – Lessons from LA." The conference is in Seattle, WA.
- *June 22<sup>nd</sup> – The 2016 National Family & Community Engagement Conference*  
Rafael Gonzalez, Director-Best Start Communities, Manuel Fierro, Senior Program Officer – Best Start Communities and Alex Wade, Program Officer – Best Start Communities will be leading and co-presenting a workshop titled, "Authentic Community Engagement for Social Change." The conference is sponsored by the Institute for Educational Leadership and takes place in Pittsburgh, PA.

**Staff Contact:** Rafael Gonzalez ([rgonzalez@first5la.org](mailto:rgonzalez@first5la.org))

### **Strategic Plan Communities Strategies**

Implementation of First 5 LA's Strategic Plan 2015-2020 includes a Communities strategy that consists of three focus areas: Focus Area #1 (Community Capacity): Community members have a shared vision and act collectively to improve the policies, services and environments that impact families; Focus Area #2 (Community Resource Networks): Communities have ECE- and health-related supports that meet family needs; Focus area #3 (Places and Spaces): Communities have physical spaces that promote healthy living and encourage interaction. Updates for each of these Focus Areas are listed below.

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#### ***Focus Area #1 – Community Capacity***

On January 29, 2016, the Transition Team, consisting of representatives from each of the 14 Best Start Community Partnerships, convened to provide feedback to First 5 LA staff on ways to support Partnerships for the long-term. Partnership support involves both programmatic and administrative elements, such as ongoing capacity building, meeting planning and logistical support (child care, interpretation, food, etc.). Partnership support is currently provided or coordinated directly by staff in 13 of the 14 communities, with Metro LA being supported by an intermediary organization, Para Los Niños. Over the past five years, it has become clear that having First 5 LA serve as the primary coordinator of Partnership support is less than optimal, and research indicates that it will not lead to sustainable Partnerships. Through experience, Best Start staff has learned the critical importance of engaging residents throughout the design process. The Transition Team represents a new and exciting way of doing business in which ideas are presented to residents early in the process when there is still flexibility to incorporate them, rather than after they have completed First 5 LA's internal approval processes. The Transition Team discussed the concept of Sustainable Partnerships, which is a desired outcome for all of the Partnerships – that they develop the ability to self-govern and sustain their community improvement efforts beyond First 5 LA funding. The Team engaged in an exercise through which they processed and provided input on a set of key characteristics of sustainable partnerships developed by staff. Overall, the Team provided critical feedback that has further shaped the thinking and design of the long-term support structures.

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#### ***Focus Area #2 - Community Resource Networks Focus Area - Update***

First 5 LA's Community Resource Networks Project will enhance the ability of networks to coordinate services and supports as a means to more effectively connect families to services and supports. Staff released a Request for Information (RFI) on January 12, 2016 and accepted responses through February 19, 2016. The purpose of the RFI was two-fold: 1) identify efforts by existing networks working in Best Start Communities to coordinate services and supports for families with children prenatal to age 5; and 2) learn from networks about the needs and opportunities related to coordination of services and supports. The RFI was distributed to over 266 individuals who represent various networks that serve Best Start Communities. Results of the RFI as well as other key informant interviews will help inform First 5 LA's development and implementation of a capacity building plan, which will be shared with the Commission in the coming months.

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#### ***Focus Area #3 - Places and Spaces Focus Area – Update***

In June of 2015, the LA County Parks and Recreation Department launched a major planning and data collection process to determine park and recreation land, access, user density, amenities, and park conditions in LA County. First 5 LA is a member of the Steering Committee that is advising the development of the "Countywide Comprehensive Park Needs Assessment", and is sharing the needs of young children and families. The final report will include a complete inventory of both

existing conditions and an opportunity analysis. This is a timely process that may help to inform future spending within LA County.

Beginning in December 2015 and ending this month, the LA County Department of Parks and Recreation has sponsored a series of county wide community meetings to collect community input and offer community residents the opportunity to verify current data as a part of the Countywide Comprehensive Park Needs Assessment. The community level meetings focus on seeking input from families, residents, and other stakeholders to determine the improvements needed, identify if park spaces meet the current needs of the community, and inform decision-making. Many of the Best Start Partnerships have expressed interest in taking on leadership roles to improve the places and spaces in their community. Therefore, the LA County community meetings to inform the comprehensive assessment provide a timely opportunity for Best Start members to share their experiences and lend their voices to inform decision-making about park and recreation available in their community. In addition, the Places and Spaces strategic partnership with the Neighborhood Land Trust provided an opportunity for residents in the Best Start communities to be trained in the skills needed to be park advocates for young children and their families at the LA County community meetings. The Best Start communities of East LA, El Monte, South East LA, Compton and West Athens participated in both the training and support provided by the Neighborhood Land Trust and the County Park and Recreation community meetings to voice the needs of young children and families within their communities. The Countywide Comprehensive Park Needs Assessment will be completed in April and presented to the BOS in May 2016.

First 5 LA's staff Places and Spaces Workgroup presented to the Los Angeles Funders Collaborative about areas First 5 LA plans to impact through our Strategic Plan. This included discussion about improving the built environments for children 0-5 and increasing families' access to places and spaces. The Funders Collaborative is a group of foundation representatives involved in built environment activities. They use a "collective impact" model to advocate for smart growth, increased open space, access to open space, and land-use issues. First 5 LA will continue to participate as a regular member of the Funders Collaborative Steering Committee which includes funders such as; Department of Public Health, California Community Foundation, Liberty Hill Foundation and The California Endowment.

Additionally, staff from the Places and Spaces Workgroup represented First 5 LA and issues pertinent to the 0-5 population during a multi organizational conversation organized by LAUSD, the County of LA Department of Public Health and the City of L.A. Planning Department to investigate the concept of creating Healthy Kids Zones. While the Healthy Kids Zones concept emphasizes school-based wellness centers as neighborhood anchors, First 5 LA is promoting the needs of the 0-5 population and highlighting the importance of promoting safe locations for young children within a Kids Zone. Places and Spaces Workgroup members were also invited by the City of LA's Office of LA River Works to speak to a group of young landscape architecture students about the need for open and green spaces, especially along the LA River. The panel was an opportunity to highlight that investing in young children through good open space design will have a positive effect on children and their communities over a long period of time.

First 5 LA's Places and Spaces Workgroup continues to develop relationships to identify potential partnerships to expand on First 5 LA's existing networks and build an understanding of the issues where First 5 LA can support advocacy for a built environment that positively impacts the lives of children and their families.

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## VI. WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

*No highlights to report this month.*

## VII. COUNTYWIDE SYSTEMS IMPROVEMENT

Staff attended 'Policy Insights 2016,' a one-day conference in Sacramento on March 9. This conference is organized and put together by the California Budget and Policy Center. The Plenary featured notable speakers, including Raj Chetty, Professor of Economics, Stanford University, and Frank J. Mecca, Executive Director, County Welfare Directors Association of California and Board Member of the California Budget & Policy Center. The theme of this year's conference was Poverty and Place: The Role of Neighborhoods in Upward Income Mobility.

Workshops that staff attended focused on:

- Opportunities and Investments that Help Pave the Way for Broad Economic Growth, Especially for Children
- Supporting California's Early Learners: Strategically Investing in Children from Birth through Kindergarten
- What's at Stake? Key Legislative Staffers Discuss the 2016-17 Budget

By attending this conference, staff was able to bring back tools, information and messaging to the Policy and Best Start Departments that are useful in advancing First 5 LA's work.

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## VIII. INTERNAL INITIATIVES

On March 14<sup>th</sup>, First 5 LA staff will present a session on the Expiring Initiatives Review and Report process at the 11<sup>th</sup> annual Grants Managers Network Conference in New Orleans. This is a national conference that brings together grants management and operations professionals in philanthropy with a focus on growing impact, increasing transparency and getting the best possible return on investments. The First 5 LA session is focused on closing out grants with integrity and transparency and includes the following learning objectives: 1) describe First 5 LA's grant close-out process (aka Expiring Initiatives Review and Report process), 2) Identify lessons learned from our grant close-out process, and 3) Collect additional best practices and lessons learned on grant close-out processes from others in the philanthropic field.

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## IX. FEDERAL AND STATE PUBLIC POLICY AND GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

### State Budget

First 5 LA staff and our state advocates at California Strategies continue to engage with state leaders on the Governor's proposed 2016-17 budget, which directs no new funding for early education and envisions the creation of an annual early learning block grant which combines the California State Preschool Program (CSPP), Transitional Kindergarten, and Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) funding into a single block grant for Local Education Agencies (LEAs).

In particular, First 5 LA and California Strategies continue to convene an early learning state budget coalition comprised of advocacy, provider, and business groups. In preparation for a series of

meetings and legislative hearings, the coalition drafted a letter which was submitted to the Department of Finance on February 19 and shared with the Governor's Office and other legislative leadership. See Attachment A for a copy of the letter.

In addition, the coalition is working closely with early learning champions in the state Legislature, in particular the Legislative Women's Caucus, to advance our budget priorities. For the third year in the row, the Women's Caucus has prioritized early learning and is pursuing \$800 million for child care in the 2016-17 budget. For a copy of the Women's Caucus press release, see Attachment B

**Staff contact:** Peter Barth ([pbarth@first5la.org](mailto:pbarth@first5la.org))

### **Supporting Emergency Child Care Vouchers**

First 5 LA joined 19 other LA-based funder, advocacy, provider, and academic organizations to support the County's state budget proposal to fund an emergency child care voucher for foster families along with child care navigators and training for providers on trauma-informed care best practices. A copy of the proposal, with a list of all supporters, is included as Attachment C.

**Staff contact:** Peter Barth ([pbarth@first5la.org](mailto:pbarth@first5la.org))

### **President Obama's 2017 Budget Proposal**

As The Raben Group shared at the February Board of Commissioners meeting, President Obama released his proposed budget for the 2017 federal fiscal year. The \$4 trillion spending plan includes significant investments in early childhood programs and priority initiatives to support families including:

- \$200 million in discretionary funding above the 2016 level to help States implement the changes required by the new Child Care and Development Block Grant Act.
- \$9.6 billion for Head Start, an increase of \$434 million over the 2016 enacted budget. This level includes an additional \$292 million in 2017 to increase the number of children participating in a full school day, full school year Head Start program.
- \$350 million for the Preschool Development Grants (PDG) program, an increase of \$100 million from the 2016 enacted budget.
- \$80 million in added federal funding for early intervention and preschool services for children with disabilities through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Preschool Grants and the IDEA Infants and Families program. Included within the increase is \$15 million earmarked for demonstration programs designed to "expand early screening, referral, and interventions services for infants and toddlers."
- \$75 billion over 10 years for the Preschool for All program, which has been proposed for the past three years. The program would be a federal-state partnership aimed at providing all 4-year-olds from low- and moderate-income families with access to high-quality preschool, while encouraging states to expand those programs to reach additional children from middle-class families and establish full-day kindergarten policies.
- \$15 billion over the next 10 years to extend and expand evidence-based, voluntary home visiting programs.
- \$ 11 billion in housing supports to combat homelessness, including \$8.8 billion for housing vouchers and \$2.2 billion for short-term housing assistance.

**Staff Contact:** Tessa Charnofsky ([tcharnofsky@first5la.org](mailto:tcharnofsky@first5la.org))



February 19, 2016

Michael Cohen  
 California Department of Finance  
 915 L Street  
 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Early Education Block Grant

Dear: Mr. Cohen

In order to continue our successful early learning system in a way that optimally serves California's families and young children, we need to make significant investments in three fundamentally linked priority areas: access, affordability, and quality. We applaud the recent efforts that have been made, including the preschool expansion promise; however, the early learning system is still reeling from the \$1 billion in cuts during the great recession.

#### Increased Rates as a Priority

Regardless of how our new early learning system is improved and revised, it will be necessary to increase the current state rates. The 2016-17 budget must include per-child funding increases to the Regional Market Rate (RMR) and Standard Reimbursement Rate (SRR) to ensure that services to children are fully funded.

#### System Reforms Should be Addressed through Policy not Budget Process

We would like to thank the Governor for his willingness to engage in a conversation about improving our early learning and child care system. We welcome the opportunity to have this important conversation. However, we believe the complexities of our early learning and child care system are so great that we cannot improve and revise our system within the short window before the 2016-17 budget is adopted.

#### Improvements to Planning Process

We do not believe the budget process is the right platform for vetting major system reforms as outlined in the January Budget. We request a truly robust, transparent, and public process that identifies and addresses the barriers LEAs and community based organization face in providing high quality preschool as part of our state's mixed-delivery child care system.

We recommend the Governor expand the child care planning process outlined in the January Budget to address our comprehensive early learning system for children ages 0-5, and require the Governor's State Advisory Council to develop a multi-year plan to revise our early education system to achieve the principles below. We also recommend adding relevant early education and K-12 representation to the State Advisory Council for this purpose. This process tracks with the comprehensive stakeholder vetting process the Governor used for the Local Control Funding Formula and the Adult Education Block Grant.

Under this process the Governor's State Advisory Council should consider the following principles:

#### PRINCIPLES

- 1) Access must expand: Promote access to high quality pre-kindergarten programs for children the year before they enter kindergarten that address California's diverse population with priority for children from low-income families, dual language learners, and children with exceptional needs, as committed to in the Preschool Promise.
- 2) Recognize and prioritize the developmental needs of 4 years olds by ensuring developmentally appropriate practices are integrated into Transitional Kindergarten programs across the state. Transitional Kindergarten must continue as the first year of a two-year kindergarten program, as an LEA entitlement, with ADA funding, and universal access to this program across the state. Relinquishing state ADA-based funding for this program and limiting access for children to public school programs is a move in the wrong direction.
- 3) Provide a stable and meaningful level of per-child funding to support high quality programs through the state's mixed delivery system that includes LEA and community-based providers, as well as full-day and part-day programs.
- 4) Address resource barriers for LEAs and community based organizations to expanding or launching pre-kindergarten access, including facility and professional preparation, development, and compensation costs.
- 5) Strengthen our state's birth through five quality infrastructure to support expanded early education opportunities, including building on our current investments in Quality Rating and Improvement Systems (QRIS) and other quality improvement efforts that are inclusive of all providers and care settings; expanding and linking data systems; and aligning our Transitional Kindergarten and pre-kindergarten workforce requirements, while utilizing the current talent in our workforce.
- 6) Address the facilities needs of LEAs and community based organizations and resolve conflicts between Transitional Kindergarten and preschool facilities.
- 7) Create new efficiencies for cross coordination between our mixed delivery system components.
- 8) Address inefficiencies, redundancies, and conflict between state and federal pre-kindergarten funding streams to align high quality standards and allow more effective local-level fund braiding.
- 9) Improve and revise our early learning and care systems through a comprehensive age 0 to 5 approach.

10) Develop a strategic transition plan in order to avoid confusion, reduction in services and a decrease in access to children and families. A transition plan with carefully developed timelines recognizes the realities of implementation on the ground and allows for communication between providers, their families and the communities they serve.

In a time of economic prosperity, it behooves the state to build up the eroded early care and education system and invest in working families and the workforce dedicated to preparing young children for success. The foundation must be fixed before we take on significant restructuring.

Sincerely,

Cc: Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Sub. 1 on Education  
Assembly Budget Sub. 2 on Education Finance  
Senate Budget Sub. 3 on Health & Human Services  
Assembly Budget Sub. 1 on Health & Human Services

Feb 11, 2016

Contact:

Lisa Gardiner (916) 651-4019 lisa.gardiner@sen.ca.gov

**For Immediate Release**

**WOMEN'S CAUCUS ANNOUNCES PRIORITY LEGISLATION AND BUDGET ACTION TO FIX OUTDATED INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORTING CALIFORNIA'S WOMEN, WORKFORCE AND ECONOMY #StrongerCA**

SACRAMENTO – Last year, the Democratic members of the California Legislative Women's Caucus helped advance the nation's strongest equal pay law for women, positioning California as a leader in the fight to improve the economic lives of women and families.

This year, the Democratic women members are back with a package of policy and budget priorities to further advance the lives of women and their families, the structures that support the California workforce and the economic future of the state.

"A Stronger California: Securing Economic Opportunity for all Women," includes priorities centered around four pillars: Equal pay and job opportunities, access to childcare, family-friendly workplaces and building economic security by addressing poverty. They include a budget ask for an additional \$800 million investment in the state's early care and education programs as well as legislation to further address pay inequities (AB 1676, Campos), guarantee three months of job-protected maternity and paternity leave for nearly all Californians (Jackson), ensure reliable scheduling for California workers (SB 878, Leyva) and repeal the CalWORKs Maximum Family Grant (SB 23, Mitchell).

Women's economic roles in California and across the country continue to change. Women comprise almost half of California's workforce today, and families depend on women's income more than ever before. In the United States, it is estimated that 70 percent of mothers work and more than 40 percent of mothers are the sole or primary breadwinners for their families, earning at least half of their family's income.

Gender inequality directly affects the pocket books of California women and families. California women lose \$39 billion in income every year due to unequal pay. Single mothers spend 44% of their income on childcare, even as California has cut state childcare programs to the bone. In addition, two-thirds of low-wage earners are women.

"Women's roles have changed, yet the structures that support our workforce have not caught up to a reality where women work out of necessity and their incomes are critical to their families and our economy," said Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson (D-Santa

## Attachment B

Barbara), chair of the California Legislative Women's Caucus. "California made great strides last year to close the wage gap women face at work with the passage of the California Fair Pay Act, but a giant chasm still exists between the structures and public programs that support our changing workforce and the reality of Californian's daily lives."

"In a year when there is much talk in California about fixing our roads, highways and buildings, we also need to prioritize fixing the outdated structures that support our changing workforce, especially our childcare system," said Assemblymember Cristina Garcia (D-Bell Gardens), vice chair of the California Legislative Women's Caucus. "Our policies and our budget should reflect our state's values and the needs of our economy, and it's critical that women and the issues that affect them receive more attention. "

"The Legislative Women's Caucus is pursuing several important steps on behalf of economic equity for California women," said Assembly Speaker Toni G. Atkins.

"Studies show families are depending on women's income now more than ever, with a woman as breadwinner or co-breadwinner in 40% of American families. With so many women breadwinners providing for their families, the time is long past when they should have to settle for "half a loaf."

"The idea to base a new wage on the old, possibly discriminatory wage, simply perpetuates the discrimination, " said Assemblymember Nora Campos (D-San Jose).

"Instead, a woman should be judged on her qualifications for the position. If she meets the qualifications with her education, experience and training, she should be paid consistent with the amount the employer has determined to be fair compensation. Period."

"I am proud to stand with my California Legislative Women's Caucus colleagues to shed light on issues directly affecting women and families in California," said Senator Connie M. Leyva (D-Chino). "This year, I look forward to working on legislation to ensure reliable scheduling for workers. Reliable scheduling will ensure better work-life balance for workers so that they are able to plan to take their kids to school, care for an elderly parent or take a loved one to the doctor. Just as importantly, reliable scheduling means reliable paychecks, so workers will know both when they are working and what pay they can rely on to help provide for themselves and their families."

The Women's Caucus legislative platform is supported by the Stronger California Advocates Network, a coalition of 29 advocacy groups from around the state.

"Communities across the state are behind the Stronger California Agenda because promoting the economic security of women buoys their families and the state's economy," said Noreen Farrell, chair of the Stronger California Advocates Network and executive director of Equal Rights Advocates. "Stronger California Advocates cheer the Legislative Women's Caucus choice of priority bills addressing poverty, expanding

access to childcare, and promoting fair workplaces and look forward to working with them to pass these bills this session."

**Women's Caucus priority legislation and budget action:**

**Equal Pay and Job Opportunities**

**Gender Pay Equity – AB 1676 (Assemblymember Campos)**

AB 1676 will give women more bargaining power when negotiating their salaries by removing past salary history from a new salary determination. AB 1676 prohibits employers from seeking job candidates' salary histories and requires that employers provide a salary range to a job applicant, upon reasonable request.

**Access to Childcare**

**Child Care Budget Request -- Democratic members of the Women's Caucus**

To accurately reflect the reality that California is a state where mothers are significant contributors to the economy, the Legislative Women's Caucus requests an initial investment of \$800 million in the 2016-17 budget to repair the infrastructure of a state-supported childcare system that has been built over many years and is at risk of deteriorating due to recession-era budget cuts. This investment would serve tens of thousands of children, prioritize our youngest learners (0-3 year olds), prevent disruption of care for children, and recognize the important and professional nature of the work providers deliver to our state's working families.

**Family-Friendly Workplaces**

**New Parent Leave – To be Introduced (Senator Jackson)**

Senator Jackson will introduce a bill to provide three months of job-protected maternity and paternity leave for almost all California employees. Under current law, when an employee works for a small employer (5-49 employees), new birth mothers are able to take only 6-8 weeks to recover from the birth of their child without fear of losing their jobs. In addition, new birth fathers and new adoptive parents working for an employer of the same size have no right to job-protected leave. This bill will address these inequities and inadequacies by ensuring that new parents working for an employer of 5 or more have a right to up to 3 months of job-protected leave while caring for a new child.

**The Reliable Scheduling Act – SB 878 (Senator Leyva)**

Senate Bill 878 will create certainty for workers and employers by giving employees adequate advance notice of their schedule so they may better plan their lives. This proposal would make California one of the first states in the nation to recognize the

importance of reliable schedules for workers while also meeting the day-to-day needs of businesses.

**Building Economic Stability by Addressing Poverty**  
**Repeal CalWORKs Maximum Family Grant – SB 23 (Senator Mitchell)**

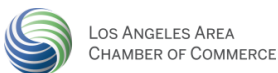
This bill would repeal existing state law that denies infants and children \$128 in basic needs assistance if the child was conceived and born while a family member was receiving aid unless the parent discloses and can prove that the child was conceived accidentally as a result of failed sterilization, failed intrauterine device or a rape. Repealing the MFG rule doesn't only make the program more just – it also is estimated to reduce childhood poverty rates by 7.4 percent.

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## Building a Bridge to High-Quality Child Care for Foster Children



CHILDREN NOW



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA  
GRANTMAKERS

USC School  
of Social Work



### Child Care for Foster Children: An Overview

When children are removed from their parents due to abuse and neglect, they are in crisis and need a safe, loving family environment. But for our youngest children, one of the top barriers to finding placement is the lack of access to child care. In an October 2015 survey conducted by ACHSA, 100 percent of foster family agencies cited that concerns about child care affect recruitment and the willingness of foster parents to accept young children into their care. Over two-thirds reported that their foster children had been denied eligibility for subsidized child care. In another survey of social workers charged with finding placements in the Children's Welcome Center, an estimated 25 percent of the denials were due to the lack of child care.

Increasing access to child care would enable a larger pool of families to become foster parents, providing a stable home for more children in need. Furthermore, we know that for all the benefits that high quality child care has on children ages 0 to 5, the impact can be even more dramatic for young children who have experienced the trauma of abuse, neglect and removal from their homes. With 28 counties applying for 2015 Foster Parent Recruitment, Retention & Support funds for child care purposes, this is clearly a statewide unmet need.

### The Access Barrier

Immediately following a child's removal, resource families, including relative caregivers, struggle to access child care because State child care programs often operate at full capacity. Many of these programs sign up children during short enrollment windows that may not align with a child's placement into foster care. This means that caregivers who work or are in school cannot take in a child without significantly disrupting their lives or putting their family in financial jeopardy. In addition, State child care enrollment is complicated and resource families may languish on waiting lists.

### Proposed Solution: Child Care Bridge Program for Foster Children

*We can help resource families by building a bridge to long-term child care.* To do this effectively, we propose a solution that includes: an emergency child care voucher, the support of a child care navigator, and workforce training to support trauma-informed care.

### **(1) Emergency voucher**

Any resource family needing child care for children ages 0 through 3, as well as parenting foster youth, would receive an immediate, time-limited voucher to pay for child care for up to six months following a child's placement. This voucher would ensure care while the caregiver is at work, school, or fulfilling training and home approval requirements. Estimates show that this would cost about \$22 million statewide.

### **(2) Child care navigator support**

Navigators would work with the resource family to facilitate use of the emergency voucher to ensure a foster child's immediate access to child care. Going forward, the navigator would continue to work with the family to transition or stabilize the child into a long-term, high quality licensed child development setting.<sup>1</sup> Navigators would also facilitate continuity and help prevent gaps in care. Administered by the county Resource & Referral agencies, child care navigator support is estimated to cost \$4 million.

### **(3) Trauma-informed care**

To meet the unique needs of abused and neglected children, child care providers will require additional support and training in the area of trauma-informed care. With a trainer to cover every county, this workforce training proposal would also include coordination at the State level and cost roughly \$5 million.

### Support and More Information

With support from a broad-based coalition of private, non-profit, philanthropic and public sectors, this request was developed by:

**Helen Berberian**, LA County DCFS, 213.351.5765,  
HBerberian@dcfs.lacounty.gov

**Genie Chough**, Office of LA County Supervisor Sheila Kuehl,  
213.974.3333, GChough@bos.lacounty.gov

**Molly Dunn**, Alliance for Children's Rights, 916.706.0080,  
M.Dunn@kids-alliance.org

**Martha Guerrero**, LA County Legislative Representative,  
213.441.7888, MGuerrero@ceo.lacounty.gov

**Dr Jacquelyn McCroskey**, USC School of Social Work,  
213.740.2004, McCroske@usc.edu

**Tim Morrison**, Children Now, 510.763.2444,  
TMorrison@ChildrenNow.org

**Donna Sneeringer**, Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles,  
916.715.0575, DSneeringer@ccrc.org

<sup>1</sup> Based on determination of CPS status per Education Code 8263 or status as a "family of one," foster children are placed at the top of waiting lists. As such, with the help of a navigator, they could effectively be transitioned into licensed child care programs.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2016-02**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY CHILDREN  
AND FAMILIES FIRST PROPOSITION 10 COMMISSION:  
APPROVAL OF ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR THE  
ENSURING IDENTIFICATION AND INTERVENTION –  
AUTISM AND OTHER DEVELOPMENTAL DELAYS INITIATIVE**

The Board of Commissioners of Los Angeles County Children and Families First Proposition 10 Commission (“the Commission”) hereby finds and resolves as follows:

**Whereas**, pursuant to the Fund Balance Policy approved on May 16, 2013, the Commission is required to approve via Resolution the commitment of funds for a specific purpose/initiative; and

**Whereas**, on September 8, 2011 the Commission approved a \$900,000 commitment for the Ensuring Identification and Intervention – Autism and Other Developmental Delays initiative, subsequently increasing this on May 16, 2013 by \$1.6 million for a total of \$2.5 million approved for the initiative.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. An additional \$1.25 million for the Ensuring Identification and Intervention – Autism and Other Developmental Delays initiative is approved, for a revised allocation total of \$3.75 million for the initiative; and
2. The executed copy of this Resolution shall be retained on file as evidence of the Commission’s actions herein.

**PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS 10TH DAY OF MARCH, 2016, BY THE  
FOLLOWING VOTE:**

AYES: Commissioners \_\_\_\_\_

NOES: Commissioners \_\_\_\_\_

ABSTAIN: Commissioners \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sheila Kuehl  
Chair, First 5 LA

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kim Belshé  
Executive Director

FIRST 5 LA

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION ON EXPIRING INITIATIVES RECOMMENDATIONS**

**RECOMMENDATION (FOR ACTION):**

Waive Governance Guideline #7: Expiration of Contracts/Grants (7 of 9 votes)

- A. Approve extending the strategic partnership with 211 LA County for the Information Resource and Referral (211) Initiative through December 31, 2017 for up to \$2.5 million. Also authorize the Executive Director to extend the partnership for an additional 6 months should there be a delay in the development of HMG strategy. Funding for the 6 month extension is included in the \$2.5 million.
- B. Approve extending Early Identification and Intervention (EII) – Autism and Other Developmental Delays initiative through June 30, 2018 for an additional \$1.25 million (Resolution No. 2016-02).
- C. Authorize staff to complete final execution of the Contracts upon Board approval of the FY 2016-2017 Programmatic budget.

**BACKGROUND:**

*Expiring Initiatives Review and Board Report*

Per the Board approved Governance Guidelines (Guideline #7), all First 5 LA multi-year service-related investments end pursuant to the time stated in their original allocation or grant award. Guideline #7 also requires staff to review and report to the Board on expiring initiatives. In preparation for the annual report to the Board, First 5 LA staff review expiring initiatives to successfully close out and capture lessons learned.

The Expiring Initiatives Review and Board Report encompass six principal components:

- To capture lessons learned, the Report examines:
  1. Whether the initiative is time-limited and/or has a capacity-building focus
  2. The success of the initiative in completing its intended deliverables and achieving outcomes
  3. The initiative's impact on a countywide or population level (if applicable)
- In addition, the Report considers:
  4. Whether the initiative has a clear, viable sustainability opportunity
  5. Whether the initiative aligns with the 2015-2020 Strategic Plan (at the outcomes, strategy, and investment guidelines level)
  6. Relevant changes in the current landscape and environmental context

**DISCUSSION:**

The Expiring Initiatives Review process has been completed for legacy investments ending through December 2017. The process was presented to the Board during the following meetings:

- October 8, 2015 Board of Commissioners Meeting: Review of Expiring Initiatives Review and Report Process for Fall 2015 and Spring 2016
- October 29, 2015 Special Meeting of the Board of Commissioners/Program & Planning Committee: Report on expiring initiatives review of Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) initiative
- February 11, 2016 Board of Commissioners Meeting: Review and Board Report Process for Spring 2016
- February 25, 2016 Special Meeting of the Board of Commissioners/Program & Planning Committee: Expiring Initiatives Review Process, Updates, and Findings

The table below summarizes the findings from this year's process, which were presented at the February 25<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting of the Board of Commissioners/Program & Planning Committee.

Initiative	Approved Allocation	Scheduled End Date	Initiative Description	Summary of Findings
Permanent Supportive Housing	\$35 million	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rental Assistance Program: 6/30/16</li> <li>• Capital Development Program: 11/30/17</li> </ul>	To provide supportive housing and related services for families that are homeless or at risk of homelessness and that include at least one prenatal to 5 year-old child.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The initiative is not specifically provided for in the 2015-2020 Strategic Plan</li> <li>• Current landscape and environmental context focused on homelessness issues</li> <li>• Sustainability opportunities for rapid rehousing at the county, city, and, potentially, federal level</li> <li>• Staff to explore potential F5LA engagement with LA County Homeless Initiative that aligns with First 5 LA's 2015-2020 Strategic Plan.</li> <li>• <u>Board Action Required:</u> None. Clear sustainability opportunities; not specifically provided for in the 2015-20 Strategic Plan. PSH will end at its scheduled end date.</li> </ul>
Information Resource and Referral (IR &R)	\$1,239,535	6/30/2016	To provide residents of LA County integrated, coordinated, and comprehensive information, referral support, and assistance to expectant parents and parents of children ages 0 to 5.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potential alignment with the 2015-2020 Strategic Plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Developmental screening strategy, Help Me Grow (HMG), includes a telephonic referral component</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Recommendation: Extend strategic partnership through December 31, 2017 for up to \$2.5 million to continue current telephonic IR&amp;R services. Additionally, authorize the Executive Director to extend the partnership for an additional 6 months should there be a delay in the development of HMG strategy. Funding for the 6 month extension is included in the \$2.5 million.</li> <li>• <u>Board Action Required:</u> Waive Governance Guideline #7; authorize staff to complete final execution of the contract upon Board approval of the FY 2016-2017 Programmatic budget</li> </ul>

Initiative	Approved Allocation	Scheduled End Date	Initiative Description	Summary of Findings
Early Identification and Intervention – Autism and Other Developmental Delays (EII)	\$2,500,000	4/9/2017	To increase the number of children from underserved communities that are screened, receive referrals to early intervention services, if needed, and are integrated into Los Angeles County’s various systems of care.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potential alignment with the 2015-2020 Strategic Plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Developmental screening strategy (HMG): improve coordination and functioning of developmental screening, assessment and early intervention programs</li> <li>○ Future HMG work will potentially leverage the existing work and partners from EII Task Force</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Recommendation: Extend initiative through June 30, 2018 for an additional \$1.25 million to continue early identification and intervention services and task force support</li> <li>• <u>Board Action Required:</u> Waive Governance Guideline #7; authorize staff to complete final execution of the contracts upon Board approval of the FY 2016-2017 Programmatic budget</li> </ul>
Parent Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT)	\$20,000,000	10/31/2017	To offer county-wide training to mental health service providers, in order to establish a workforce with skills to serve children aged two to five and their caretakers, using PCIT interventions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potential alignment with the 2015-2020 Strategic Plan not yet clear, pending further development of Health outcome, Trauma Informed (TI) Care strategy</li> <li>• Expected remaining balance of \$4.6 million after initiative end date</li> <li>• Staff will return to the Board in Spring 2017 with an update on expiring initiatives review findings and recommendation regarding use of remaining funds, informed by progress made with TI Care implementation work</li> </ul>

## **DISCUSSION:**

Based upon the review process, staff identified 2 initiatives that require board action (waiving of Governance Guidelines #7, 7 of 9 votes). Below is a summary of the initiatives that require Board action at this month's Board of Commissioners meeting.

1. Information Resource and Referral (IR & R)- 211 LA County
  - This initiative is scheduled to end on June 30, 2016.
  - Key findings from the review process include:
    - Annual appropriation expected to be fully expended
  - Potential alignment with the 2015-2020 Strategic Plan
    - Information, Resource and Referral plays important role in connecting families to concrete supports
    - Developmental screening strategy, which includes adoption of the Help Me Grow (HMG) framework, includes a telephonic component

**Board Action:** With 7 of 9 votes, waive Governance Guideline #7 to extend the strategic partnership with 211 LA County for the Information Resource and Referral (211) Initiative through December 31, 2017 for up to \$2.5 million and authorize staff to complete final contract execution upon Board approval of the FY 2016-2017 Programmatic Budget.

This 18-month extension (with Executive Director authority for an additional 6 months) provides staff the time needed to further explore the potential role of telephonic IR & R services within our developmental screening strategy, Help Me Grow (HMG), which is a systems change approach aimed at improving the coordination and functioning of developmental/behavioral screening, assessment and early intervention programs. HMG includes a telephonic access point as one of its core components. 211 LA County could be one of a number of competitive partners to help advance the future work of HMG.

Staff is seeking approval to execute contract for the period of July 1, 2016 to December 31, 2017 for up to \$2.5 million. Additionally, authorize the Executive Director to extend the partnership for an additional 6 months should there be a delay in the development of HMG strategy. Funding for the 6 month extension is included in the \$2.5 million.

2. Early Identification and Intervention (EII) – Autism and Other Developmental Delays
  - This initiative is scheduled to end on April 9, 2017.
  - Key findings from the review process include:
    - Potential alignment with the 2015-2020 Strategic Plan
      - Developmental screening strategy (HMG): improve coordination and functioning of developmental screening, assessment and early intervention programs
      - Future HMG work will potentially leverage the existing work and partners from EII Task Force

**Board Action:** With 7 of 9 votes, waive Governance Guideline #7 to extend initiative through June 30, 2018 for an additional \$1.25 million (Resolution No. 2016-02) to continue early identification and intervention services and task force support, and authorize staff to complete final contract execution upon Board approval of the FY 2016-2017 Programmatic Budget.

This 15-month extension allows staff the time needed to explore how to best leverage the Early Identification and Intervention initiative's existing work and current task force to inform and support future HMG efforts.

# Expiring Initiatives: Findings and Recommendations

March 10, 2016

1<sup>ST</sup>  LA  
**first 5 la**  
Giving kids the best start

# Goal of Today's Presentation

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- Seek Board approval on findings and recommendations for the following expiring initiatives:
  - 1) Information Resource and Referral (211 LA County)
  - 2) Early Identification and Intervention (EII)- Autism and other Developmental Delays

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# Governance Guidelines #7

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The Governance Guidelines are foundational to our management of First 5 LA investments:

- Each First 5 LA contract/grant will have an expiration date
- Multi-year services-related investments will end based on date in original allocation or grant award
- First 5 LA staff will provide annual update to Commission on expiring initiatives

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# Purpose of the Expiring Initiatives Review and Report Process

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To successfully close out and  
capture lessons learned from First 5  
LA's expiring investments

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# Review and Board Report Components

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## Capturing lessons learned:

- Was the initiative time-limited and/or capacity-building focus?
- Did the initiative complete its deliverables and achieved its desired outcome(s)?
- Did the initiative have an impact at a countywide or population level?

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## Additional considerations:

- Does the initiative have a clear, viable sustainability opportunity?
- Does the initiative align with the 2015-2020 Strategic Plan (at the outcome, strategy, and investment guidelines levels)?
- Have there been relevant changes in the current landscape and environmental context?

# Legacy Investments that were Reviewed:

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## Ending by June 2016

- Permanent Supportive Housing- Rental Assistance Program
- Information Resource and Referral

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## Ending by December 2017

- Permanent Supportive Housing - Capital Development Program
- Early Identification and Intervention – Autism and Other Developmental Delays
- Parent Child Interaction Therapy

# Information Resource and Referral- 211 LA County

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- Scheduled end date: June 30, 2016
- Board Approved Contract (FY15-16): \$1,239,535
- Key findings:
  - Potential alignment with the 2015-2020 Strategic Plan:
    - Developmental screening strategy, which includes adoption of the Help Me Grow (HMG) framework, includes a telephonic component
- Recommendation: Extend strategic partnership through December 31, 2017 for up to \$2.5 million to continue current telephonic IR&R services. Authorize ED to extend for an additional 6 months pending delays in HMG strategy development. Funding for the 6 month extension is included in the \$2.5 million.
- Board Action Required: Waive Governance Guideline #7; authorize staff to complete final execution of the contract upon Board approval of the FY 2016-2017 Programmatic budget

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# Early Identification and Intervention (EII) – Autism and Other Developmental Delays

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- Scheduled end date: April 9, 2017
- Board Approved Allocation: \$2,500,000 (April 2014 – April 2017)
- Key Findings:
  - Potential alignment with the 2015-2020 Strategic Plan:
    - Developmental screening strategy (HMG): improve coordination and functioning of developmental screening, assessment and early intervention programs<sup>152</sup>
    - Future HMG work will potentially leverage the existing work and partners from EII Task Force
- Recommendation: Extend initiative through June 30, 2018 for an additional \$1.25 million to continue early identification and intervention services and task force support
- Board Action Required: Waive Governance Guideline #7; authorize staff to complete final execution of the contracts upon Board approval of the FY 2016-2017 Programmatic budget

# Next Steps

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- June 9: FY16-17 Budget approval

# Questions

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# 2016 State Budget and Policy Outlook

Board of Commissioners  
Meeting

March 10, 2016

1<sup>ST</sup>  LA  
**first 5 la**  
Giving kids the best start



# Board Timeline

- **Federal Update:** February
- **State Update:** Today!
- **State Legislative Agenda:** March  
Program and Planning; April Commission<sup>156</sup>
- **State Budget and Legislative Updates:**  
May through October

# First 5 Association Policy Goal Highlights

- Expand access to evidence-based family strengthening programs, including voluntary home visiting
- Ensure all children receive mandated developmental and behavioral screenings
- Improve coordination across systems of care to efficiently connect young children to early intervention
- Increase the quality and number of state-funded early learning slots for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers
- Strengthen the qualifications, compensation, and stability of the early learning workforce

# First 5 Association Policy Goal Highlights

A general focus on “**system sustainability and reach**”

1. Sustain priority legacy investments
2. Advance opportunities for alternative revenues



CALIFORNIA STRATEGIES, LLC

# State Budget & Policy Update

John Benton and Monique Ramos

March 10, 2016

# Topics for Presentation

- CalStrat First 5 Efforts in Sacramento
- State Budget Overview
- Early Learning Block Grant Proposal
- Medi-Cal Waiver
- Dental Transformation Initiative
- Tobacco Taxes
- Homelessness

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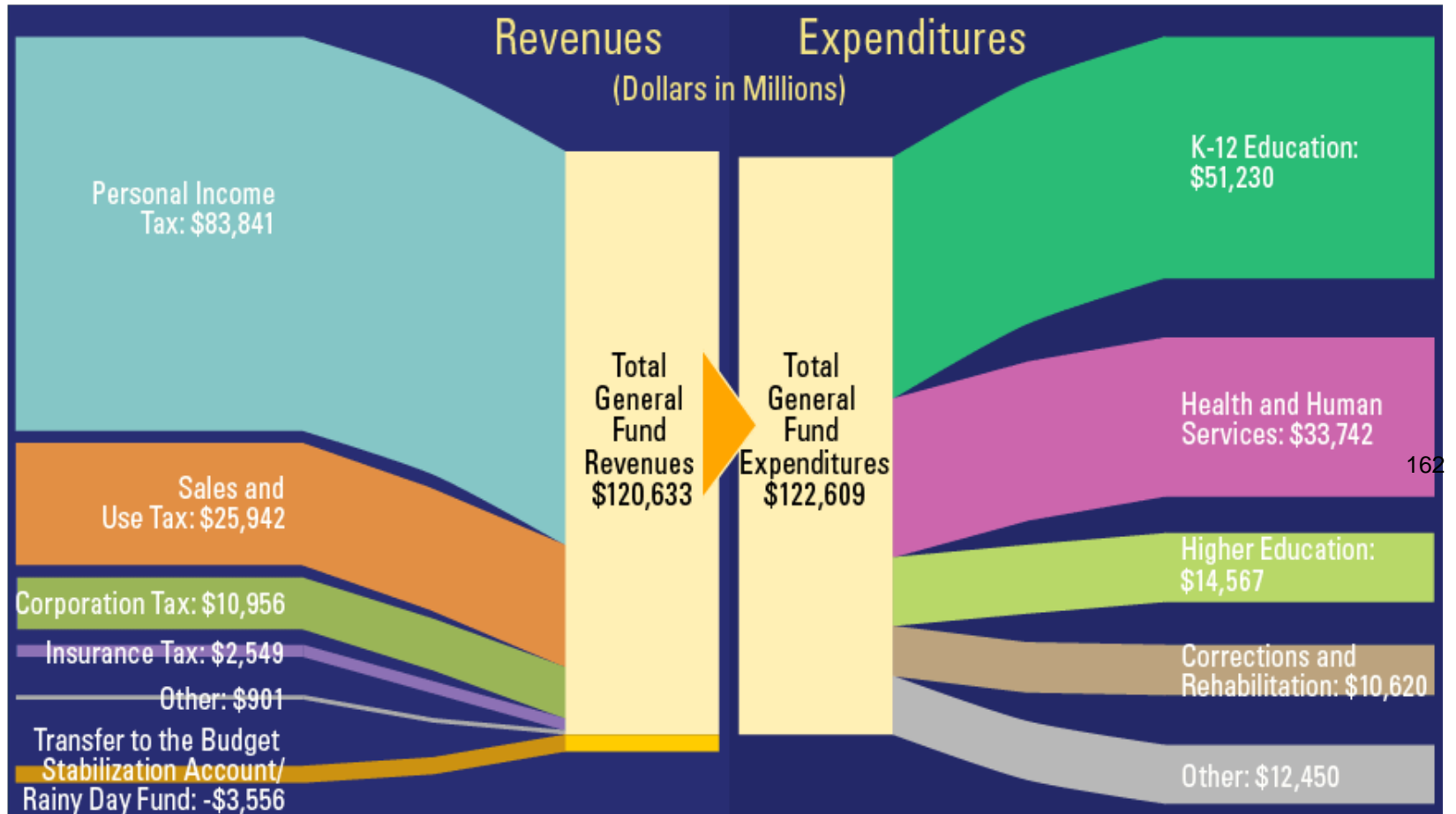
# CalStrat Efforts in Sacramento

- Strengthen the First 5 Collective Voice
- Convene Like-Minded Stakeholders
- Leverage Priorities of Governor & Legislature
- Build Long-term Relationships
- Educate Decision-makers
- Expand Partnerships
- Coordinate State Policy Locally

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# State Budget Overview



# Governor Brown's Budget Priorities

- Stay the Course—“...solve today's problems without making those of tomorrow even worse.”
- Save for a Rainy Day--\$2B this year/\$8B Total
- Pay Down Debt--\$224B long-term liabilities
- Deferred Maintenance--\$77B
- Continue Investment in Education
- Medi-Cal—13.5 million beneficiaries
- Addressing Climate Change

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# Governor Brown on Poverty

- “CA has an extensive safety net, which we maintained during the recession.”
- Raised the Minimum Wage
- Earned Income Tax Credit
- Strong Prevailing Wage Laws
- Paid Sick Leave
- Cal Grants for Low Income Students
- CalWORKs, Foster Care, Child Care
- Health Care Expansion
- Education Investments

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# Budget Proposal Highlights

- \$168B in spending – 2% increase
- Increased Revenues – \$5.9B
- Proposition 98 funding – \$71.6B
  - \$5.4B increase in K-14 education
  - \$2.8B for Local Control Funding Formula
  - **\$1.7B Early Care and Education Block Grant**
  - **Child Care Voucher Transition**
- 51% Increase in Prop. 98 spending since 2011
- HHS Budget – \$12.2B, 3.9% increase
- Health Plan Tax Approved--\$1B

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# 2016 Policy Outlook

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# Governor's Early Learning Block Grant

- Governor Brown proposed a \$1.6 billion Early Education Block Grant for Local Education Agencies (LEAs) by repurposing:
  - \$725 million from transitional kindergarten
  - \$800 million California State Preschool Program
  - \$50 million Preschool Quality Rating and Improvement System Grant
- The block grant will be allocated to LEAs to address community needs and prioritize services for the lowest-income and most at-risk four and five-year old children.
- There will be a hold-harmless provision for LEAs and some level of accountability.

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# Early Learning Budget Messaging

- Broad continued focus: Access, Affordability, and Quality
- Top funding priority for 2016: Rates
- ECE system reforms should be resolved in multi-year policy process, not the budget
- Support a multi-stakeholder, multi-year planning process to address system reforms

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# Next Steps for the Early Learning Budget Proposal

- Continue to convene the state Early Care and Education (ECE) budget coalition
- Meet with K-12 advocates, and develop common ground between K-12 and ECE advocacy groups
- Actively engage in legislative hearings and stakeholder input sessions
  - Department of Finance (DOF) will continue to hold meetings with various stakeholder groups in March.
  - DOF will provide an updated proposal in the Governor's updated budget, released May 15<sup>th</sup>.

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# Medi-Cal Waiver

- Federal Department of Health and Human Services approved California's 1115b waiver proposal
- The waiver allows the creation of four new programs
  - Global Payment Program (GPP)—target remaining uninsured
  - Whole Person Care - integrate & improve care for frequent system users
  - Public Hospital Redesign & Incentives in Medi-Cal Program (PRIME) – payment reform
  - **Dental Transformation initiative**
- Focus on Managed Care Plans & Risk Transfer
- Budget Neutrality

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# Medi-Cal: Dental Transformation

- Supports three areas of investment:
  - Preventive Services for Children (statewide)
  - Caries Risk Assessment & Disease Management (county pilots)—Only for children 6 Years & Under
  - Continuity of Care (county pilots)—Reward continuous 2-6 years of service
- ***Funds Local Dental Pilot Programs***
  - County, Tribe, Indian Health Program, UC or CSU as coordinating entity
  - Pilots selected by the state—Maximum of 15
  - Must align with the three areas of investment
- ***Provides \$740 million over 5-Year Period (\$148m/year)***
- Includes Incentive Payments to Providers and Messaging and Education to Providers & Beneficiaries

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# No Place Like Home Initiative

- State legislative package introduced to address homelessness
- \$2B bond to construct permanent housing for chronically homeless with mental illness
- \$200M over 4 years for Rent Subsidies
- Two Special Family Housing Assistance Programs
  - Bringing Families Home Pilots
  - CalWORKS Housing Support Program

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# Alternative Revenues

## Tobacco Legislation:

- **AB 10 X2 (Bloom)** - Allow local jurisdictions to tax tobacco.
- **AB 11 X2 (Nazarian)** - Establish an annual Board of Equalization tobacco licensing fee program.
- **SB 5 X2 (Leno)** - Add e-cigarettes to existing tobacco products definition.

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## Statewide Revenue Proposals:

- Proposition 30 Extension
- Tobacco Tax Increase
- Lifting Children and Families Out of Poverty Act



# Additional Activities for 2016

- Develop and implement First 5 LA's state legislative agenda
- Coordinate First 5 advocacy day and other special events
- Strengthen First 5 partnerships with other leading early childhood advocacy groups
- Monitor state landscape and identify new opportunities to advance First 5 LA policy goals
- Ongoing support for the First 5 Association

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# QUESTIONS



# PRIORITIZING YOUNG CHILDREN IN ALL POLICIES

## FAMILY STRENGTHENING



**VISION:**

Enhance systems that support parental resilience, social connections, concrete support in times of need, and knowledge of parenting and child development.

**POLICY GOALS:**

- Expand access to evidence-based family strengthening programs, including voluntary home visiting, which optimize child development and reduce the risk of abuse and neglect.
- Increase and improve child and parental mental health and substance abuse awareness, diagnosis and treatment.
- Strengthen the social safety-net to ensure families are self-sufficient and can meet their basic economic needs, such as food, housing, child care, transportation and health care.

## EARLY IDENTIFICATION AND INTERVENTION



**VISION:**

Build a family-centered system that supports all children at risk of developmental and behavioral delay.

**POLICY GOALS:**

- Ensure all children receive mandated developmental and behavioral screenings.
- Invest in and improve coordination across systems of care to efficiently connect young children to early intervention.
- Improve statewide data collection, sharing and reporting on key indicators of screening, assessment, referral and treatment.

## ORAL HEALTH



**VISION:**

Expand access to preventative and restorative oral health services and oral health education.

**POLICY GOALS:**

- Increase utilization of essential Medi-Cal dental services by young children.
- Expand the availability and geographic spread of pediatric oral health providers.
- Mobilize state support for innovative approaches that provide oral health services in alternative settings.

## QUALITY EARLY LEARNING



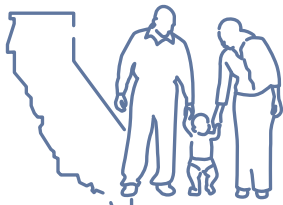
**VISION:**

Improve overall well-being and social-emotional and cognitive outcomes for all children from birth in order to achieve kindergarten readiness.

**POLICY GOALS:**

- Increase the quality and number of state-funded early learning slots for infants, toddlers and preschoolers.
- Embed high-quality standards in all state-funded early learning programs and support state and local efforts to meet them.
- Strengthen the qualifications, compensation and stability of the early learning workforce.

## SYSTEM SUSTAINABILITY AND REACH



**VISION:**

Ensure that California's youngest children and their families thrive.

**POLICY GOAL:**

- Explore and advance opportunities to preserve and increase funding streams dedicated to early childhood, including Proposition 10 revenues.
- Improve state and county data systems to track children's outcomes.

FIRST 5 LA

**SUBJECT:**

Mid-Year Adjustments to the FY 2015-16 Budget

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Mid-year adjustments to the FY 2015-16 Budget as detailed in Attachment 1 (Program) and Attachment 2 (Operating) are presented to the Board of Commissioners for informational and discussion purposes. Staff recommends that this item be brought back to the Board for final approval at the April 14, 2016 meeting, consistent with the Governance Guidelines.

**BACKGROUND:**

The \$229.7 million FY 2015-16 Budget, approved via Resolution by the Board of Commissioners on June 11, 2015, included \$208.9 million of funding for program costs and \$20.8 million for operating costs. Initial funding requests were generated using the latest information available at the time of budget development, and were based on spending estimates—rather than negotiated contract amounts—so staff would have the flexibility to manage contracts within a budget unit without having to return to the Commission.

The Program Budget includes 35 initiatives with anticipated costs to be incurred during FY 2015-16. Based on updated information and analysis, this item reflects a net decrease to the overall FY 2015-16 Program Budget of \$11.5 million for a revised fiscal year Program Budget of \$197.5 million. These adjustments are detailed by initiative in Attachment 1A and by program—which aggregate up to the amounts at the initiative level—in Attachment 1B.

This item also includes increases and decreases to various Operating Budget line items, the net effect of which is cost neutral, resulting in the Operating Budget remaining at \$20.8 million for the fiscal year. These adjustments are detailed at a summary level in Attachment 2.

The net result to the approved FY 2015-16 Budget of \$229.7 million is a decrease of \$11.5 million, or 5.0%, for a revised total fiscal year budget of \$218.3 million.

**DISCUSSION:**

Program Budget:

Per current First 5 LA policy, any change to the spending levels approved at the initiative level in the Program Budget requires formal approval by the Board of Commissioners via Resolution. As in the prior year, staff consolidated all FY 2015-16 Program Budget adjustments into a single process for presentation to the Commission at mid-year for approval. These adjustments, including both augmentations and reductions for programs that are anticipated to significantly underspend their approved budget levels, are detailed by initiative in Attachment 1A and by program—which aggregate up to the amounts at the initiative level—in Attachment 1B.

The following are highlights of the requested changes at the initiative level.

*2015-2020 Strategic Plan: Focusing for the Future*

Families: Place-Based – Welcome Baby/Select Home Visiting: Reduction of \$5,637,000 (-15.4%)

The overall decrease to this initiative is driven by a \$4.3 million decrease for the Select Home Visiting program and a \$1.3 million decrease for the Welcome Baby program. One Select Home Visiting grantee chose to terminate their grant effective March 2016 due to low referral rates. In

addition, First 5 LA has ceased negotiations that began in 2012 with Kaiser Baldwin Park, due to the inability to reach an agreement on data sharing. The FY 2015-16 Budget has been reduced accordingly. Both the Select Home Visiting grantees and the participating Welcome Baby hospitals have experienced cost savings due to staff turnover, resulting in lower than anticipated enrollments and related program materials. Estimates were also updated based on actual expenditure rates, also eliminating the need to maintain a small contingency initially built into the budget amounts, which accounts for 27.9% of the reduction. There are many unknown variables that influence initial budget estimates, such as referral and enrollment rates for the programs. As the programs continue to mature and improve their implementation, staff will be able to refine budget assumptions based on access to realistic data.

Communities: Place-Based – Community Capacity Building: Reduction of \$893,000 (-5.2%)

The overall decrease to this initiative is driven by cost reductions in Marketing and Communications (\$670,000), Partnership Capacity Building (\$307,000) and Results Focused Actions (\$1,253,000). These are offset by increases in Partnership Support (\$1,270,000) and the Long-Term Business Model Transition (\$67,000), for an overall net decrease of \$893,000.

- Marketing & Communications – Reduction of \$670,000 (-35.8%): Lower costs are expected due to a delay in enacting a plan to bring on Communications Capacity Builders for all 14 Best Start Communities. The plan was delayed due to staff considerations related to a stronger, more efficient capacity building approach. As a result, solicitation for communications capacity builders did not take place in the first six months as originally anticipated.
- Partnership Capacity Building – Reduction of \$307,000 (-10.5%): Updated spending projections for the fiscal year indicate that fewer costs will be needed in this area, primarily because Community Partnerships have not accessed customized training and technical assistance funds. This is because during the first six months of the fiscal year the Community Partnerships prioritized the Building Stronger Families (BSF) grantee selection and onboarding processes.
- Results Focused Actions (aka Community-Identified Projects) – Reduction of \$1,253,000 (-23.9%): This amount is being reduced—reflecting a shift of costs from FY 2015-16 to future fiscal years—to align projected spending with the currently executed agreements with the BSF grantees for FY 2015-16, most of which cover only the last seven months of the fiscal year.
- Partnership Support – Increase of \$1,270,000 (54.7%): Additional partnership support costs are needed to account for the increased number of monthly Leadership Group meetings, workgroups and other smaller meetings. These meetings allow community members to build momentum around the community-identified projects. This includes activities such as developing outreach plans and materials, orienting new Community Partnership members, refining bylaws and governance, introducing and onboarding BSF grantees to the Community Partnership, and hosting training on relationship-based outreach.
- Long Term Business Model Transition (aka Long Term Support Structure) – Increase of \$67,000 (239.3%): Updated spending projections indicated the need to increase community and key stakeholder engagement to inform the long-term support structure for Best Start. The major cost driver is the implementation of the Transition Team, a cross-community advisory group that meets frequently to gain community insight and share initial thinking prior to final decisions being made about the design and implementation of the long-term support structure.

Healthy Kids: Increase of \$482,000 (21.4%)

The Healthy Kids budget is being increased to account for changes to the two contracts that comprise this initiative. The contract with LA Care to administer the Healthy Kids Insurance Coverage program was initially approved by the Board for six months—through December 2015—for a total of \$250,000. However, the Board subsequently approved an extension through September 2016, with an estimated additional \$380,000 to be spent in the second half of the fiscal year. In addition, the budget is being increased by \$102,000 for the Healthy Kids Outreach, Enrollment, Retention, and Utilization program to align the budget amount with the balance remaining in the allocation. The contract with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health was amended during the fiscal year to align the contract with the balance remaining in the allocation.

### *Legacy Investments*

Baby Friendly Hospitals: Increase of \$106,000 (8.5%)

The net increase to the Baby Friendly Hospitals initiative of \$106,000 is due to the need to account for \$274,000 of costs related to Cycle 2 grantees, offset by a reduction of \$168,000 for Cycle 3 grantees. In both cases, the grantees found that more time is needed to prepare for the Baby Friendly USA site visit than initially anticipated. Cycle 2 grantees originally expected to end in FY 2014-15, but requested no-cost extensions into the current fiscal year to account for the additional time needed to prepare for the site visit, thus resulting in the need to account for expenditures in FY 2015-16 that were not initially considered during budget development. Similarly, Cycle 3 grantees also require more time to prepare for site visits, and anticipate requesting no-cost extensions for their contracts into FY 2016-17, resulting in cost savings for grantees in that cycle.

Early Identification and Intervention – Autism and Other Developmental Delays: Increase of \$128,000 (15.6%)

All six of the grantees in the Early Identification and Intervention initiative executed contract budget amendments to account for funds that were unspent in FY 2014-15. These funds are expected to be spent in FY 2015-16, resulting in the need for a budget increase for this initiative.

Oral Health & Nutrition – Dental Home: Reduction of \$490,000 (-12.6%)

The Dental Home project is being reduced to account for expected cost savings based on both historical spending trends and the rate of spending through the first six months of the fiscal year. The cost savings are being driven by a combination of delays and compliance issues with various subcontractors. Compliance issues with two clinic sites prevented the distribution of funds to these sites, resulting in additional savings across other areas that support these sites, such as training and technical assistance. In addition, a subcontract with the project's policy partner experienced a six-month delay, the subcontract for the project's primary software was executed later than anticipated, and four clinic sites will not receive the software due to insufficient infrastructure, resulting in savings for maintenance and installation.

Parent Child Interaction Therapy: Reduction of \$1,900,000 (-40.9%)

The decrease of \$1.9 million for the Parent Child Interaction Therapy initiative is primarily due to updated spending projections based on both historical trends as well as discussions with the primary contractors, the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (DMH) for program implementation and the University of California at Davis for training and technical assistance. During the four years of the project, DMH has never reached 100% of projected spending, realizing spending of approximately 50% each year. Additionally, DMH and the provider agencies have experienced some staffing changes and vacant positions in FY 2015-16, leading to lower than anticipated costs.

Peer Support Groups for Parents: Reduction of \$425,000 (-28.9%)

The Peer Support Groups for Parents initiative is being reduced primarily due to updated spending estimates based on actual expenditures incurred to date and the actual negotiated contract amount for the remainder of the fiscal year. FY 2015-16 is the final year of the project, and while the project is anticipated to meet the overall goal of facilitating 100 parent support groups, total project costs are expected to be less than the initial allocation due to lower costs required to implement the support groups.

Resource Mobilization – ECE: Reduction of \$700,000 (-57.1%)

The net decrease for Resource Mobilization – ECE is due to a decrease of \$700,000 for the ECE Recoverable Grant. Although additional fundraising efforts are underway to draw down matching funds through the \$1 million challenge for the ECE Recoverable Grant Fund, staff anticipates that total matching funds will not exceed \$225,000 for this program in FY 2015-16.

Resource Mobilization – Project Development: Increase of \$5,000

Although this initiative did not have a budget approved for FY 2015-16, a no-cost extension was executed for the Pay For Success feasibility study to allow for the use of unspent funds during the fiscal year. This resulted in the need to adjust the budget accordingly to account for these previously unanticipated costs incurred in this fiscal year.

Universal Assessment of Newborns: Reduction of \$1,804,000 (-20.5%)

Similar to the reduction under the Families initiative noted above, the reduction for Universal Assessment of Newborns is due to several factors. First, estimates were updated based on actual expenditure rates, which eliminated the need to maintain a small contingency initially built into the budget amounts, accounting for 23.2% of the reduction. Second, the participating hospitals have experienced cost savings due to staff turnover, resulting in lower than anticipated enrollments and related program materials. Third, First 5 LA has ceased negotiations that began in 2012 with Kaiser Baldwin Park, due to the inability to reach an agreement on data sharing, further reducing the fiscal year budget needs. Funds not spent for this initiative in FY 2014-15 will be available for use in future years, consistent with the program design and approved timeframe.

### *Research and Evaluation*

Program Evaluation: Reduction of \$334,000 (-7.9%)

The net decrease for the Program Evaluation budget is driven primarily by the following changes at the program level:

- Best Start Evaluation – Increase of \$89,000 (31.2%): The budget is being increased to account for costs related to several deliverables that were originally scheduled to be completed in FY 2014-15 that were moved into FY 2015-16 due to competing project timelines.
- Professional Development System Study – Reduction of \$340,000 (-100.0%): The budget for this project is being eliminated because the study was canceled internally before a contract was executed with a potential contractor. There are no plans at this time to pursue this study in a future fiscal year.
- Welcome Baby Impact Study – Reduction of \$92,000 (-33.5%): The budget for this study was initially developed based on estimates prior to the full construction of the project's Request for Proposal solicitation. This budget reduction reflects more accurate estimates that lower the anticipated total cost of the study.

### Operating Budget:

Per current First 5 LA policy, the Executive Director has the authority to approve budget adjustments to the Operating Budget between line items in an amount not to exceed \$25,000. Adjustments to the various line items within the FY 2015-16 Operating Budget exceed this amount specified in the policy, and as such require approval by the Board of Commissioners. Based on analysis of actual expenditures as well as additional anticipated expenditures through June 2016, we expect that higher-than-anticipated needs in some areas will be offset by savings projected in other areas.

Consistent with past practice, spending projections and necessary adjustments are prepared at the departmental level, which support the organization-wide adjustments presented for Commission approval in *Attachment 2*. This allows for a higher degree of due diligence to ensure that budgets are monitored and managed at the appropriate level, as well as to appropriately inform the development of the FY 2016-17 Budget.

Although work is currently underway regarding the overall organizational transformation, there was not enough information available at the time of this analysis to determine the impact to FY 2015-16 operating costs. As such, no adjustments were made to account for any incremental changes that may take place during this fiscal year.

As noted previously, the net effect of the adjustments to line items within the FY 2015-16 Operating Budget are cost neutral. Although savings are anticipated for the fiscal year overall, there are a significant number of unknown variables that could impact the analysis of estimated expenditures. Because of this, staff is not recommending a reduction in the overall FY 2015-16 Operating Budget amount at this time. Current spending trends will be utilized to explore opportunities to decrease operating costs from current budgeted levels during the FY 2016-17 Budget development process.

The following are highlights of changes within the major spending categories:

- General Operating Expenses – This category includes a number of transfers both in and out, with a total net decrease of \$55,600 (-4.0%). This is primarily due to a net reduction in Telephones and Modems costs of \$19,200 and a reduction in costs related to Hardware and Software Maintenance of \$30,000. The reduction in costs for telephones and modems is due to a new contract executed with the provider that reduced monthly costs by approximately thirty percent. In addition, software maintenance costs are lower than initially anticipated for FY 2015-16 because although planning and work are taking place during the current fiscal year, the actual reimplementation of the financial system will occur during FY 2016-17.
- Consultant Services – This category includes several transfers, resulting in a net overall increase of \$44,955 (2.6%). This is driven primarily by additional funds needed for Other Professional Fees related to the provision of evening security for the building that were not anticipated during the initial budget development for FY 2015-16.

### Administrative Cost:

As part of the approval of the annual fiscal year budget, the Commission approves an annual limit on the organizations administrative spending. While this administrative cost limit represents a percentage of the overall fiscal year budget, the Commission approves the limit at the dollar amount level. This is due to the fact that administrative costs are generally not as fluid as other types of costs, and cannot adapt quickly to respond to changes in actual spending levels.

The administrative cost limit approved in June 2015 as part of the FY 2015-16 Budget was \$11.4 million. Based on the mid-year budget revisions discussed above and detailed in *Attachment 2*, the total revised administrative cost amount is within the dollar amount limit approved for FY 2015-16 of \$11.4 million, and administrative spending for the fiscal year will not exceed the approved amount.

**NEXT STEPS:**

This item is being presented to the Board of Commissioners for informational and discussion purposes. This item will return to the Board for final approval at the April 14, 2016 Commission meeting, consistent with the Governance Guidelines.

The analysis of spending trends and project status that was conducted as part of the mid-year budget adjustment process will be used to inform the FY 2016-17 Budget development process currently underway. This analysis will also inform the reaffirmation process that takes place in conjunction with the approval of the FY 2016-17 Budget, through which all levels of fund balance are evaluated for appropriateness and potential modifications. The proposed FY 2016-17 Budget will be presented to the Board of Commissioners on May 12, 2016 for discussion.

BUDGET COMPONENT	APPROVED FY 2015-16 BUDGET	PROPOSED ADJUSTMENTS	REVISED FY 2015-16 BUDGET	% CHANGE
<b>2015-2020 STRATEGIC PLAN: FOCUSING FOR THE FUTURE</b>				
<i>Investments and Approaches Reaffirmed by the Board and Aligned with SP</i>				
1 Families: Place-Based - Welcome Baby/Select Home Visiting	\$ 36,603,000	\$ (5,637,000)	\$ 30,966,000	-15.4%
2 Communities: Place-Based - Community Capacity Building	17,029,000	(893,000)	16,136,000	-5.2%
3 Policy Agenda/Advocacy	2,797,000	-	2,797,000	0.0%
4 Communications & Marketing	4,672,000	-	4,672,000	0.0%
5 Communications - Conference Funding	200,000	-	200,000	0.0%
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>\$ 61,301,000</b>	<b>\$ (6,530,000)</b>	<b>\$ 54,771,000</b>	<b>-10.7%</b>
<i>Existing Investments Potentially Aligned with SP</i>				
6 Healthy Kids	\$ 2,250,000	\$ 482,000	\$ 2,732,000	21.4%
7 Information Resource and Referral	1,360,000	-	1,360,000	0.0%
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>\$ 3,610,000</b>	<b>\$ 482,000</b>	<b>\$ 4,092,000</b>	<b>13.4%</b>
<i>New Investments Under Development, to be Aligned with SP (Strategic Plan Implementation Fund)</i>				
Families	\$ 636,000	\$ -	\$ 636,000	0.0%
Communities	1,093,750	-	1,093,750	0.0%
Early Care & Education (ECE) Systems	370,000	-	370,000	0.0%
Health, Mental Health & Substance Abuse Systems	546,250	-	546,250	0.0%
Other/Cross-Cutting Activities	490,000	-	490,000	0.0%
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>\$ 3,136,000</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 3,136,000</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>TOTAL 2015-2020 STRATEGIC PLAN: FOCUSING FOR THE FUTURE</b>	<b>\$ 68,047,000</b>	<b>\$ (6,048,000)</b>	<b>\$ 61,999,000</b>	<b>-8.9%</b>
<b>LEGACY INVESTMENTS</b>				
8 At-Risk Fathers Investment	\$ 150,000	\$ -	\$ 150,000	0.0%
9 Baby Friendly Hospitals	1,245,000	106,000	1,351,000	8.5%
10 Black Infant Health	1,955,000	-	1,955,000	0.0%
11 Children's Dental Care	10,656,000	-	10,656,000	0.0%
12 Children's Vision Care	1,341,000	-	1,341,000	0.0%
13 Early Identification and Intervention - Autism and Other Developmental Delays	818,000	128,000	946,000	15.6%
14 ECE Environmental Scan	80,000	-	80,000	0.0%
15 Healthy Food Access	2,064,000	-	2,064,000	0.0%
16 Little by Little/One Step Ahead	3,515,000	-	3,515,000	0.0%
17 Los Angeles Universal Preschool	55,423,000	-	55,423,000	0.0%
18 Oral Health & Nutrition - Dental Home	3,904,000	(490,000)	3,414,000	-12.6%
19 Parent Child Interaction Therapy	4,642,000	(1,900,000)	2,742,000	-40.9%
20 Partnerships for Families	150,000	-	150,000	0.0%
21 Peer Support Groups for Parents	1,469,000	(425,000)	1,044,000	-28.9%
22 Policy Advocacy Fund	2,194,000	-	2,194,000	0.0%
23 Reducing Childhood Obesity	15,462,000	-	15,462,000	0.0%
24 Resource Mobilization - ECE	1,225,000	(700,000)	525,000	-57.1%
25 Resource Mobilization - Funder Partnerships	60,000	-	60,000	0.0%
26 Resource Mobilization - Health	1,540,000	-	1,540,000	0.0%
27 Resource Mobilization - Organizational Capacity Building	550,000	-	550,000	0.0%
28 Resource Mobilization - Project Development	-	5,000	5,000	N/A
29 Tot Parks and Trails	660,000	-	660,000	0.0%
30 Universal Assessment of Newborns	8,785,000	(1,804,000)	6,981,000	-20.5%

BUDGET COMPONENT		APPROVED FY 2015-16 BUDGET	PROPOSED ADJUSTMENTS	REVISED FY 2015-16 BUDGET	% CHANGE
31	Workforce Development	2,522,000	-	2,522,000	0.0%
32	Workforce Development - ECE Workforce Consortium	12,798,000	-	12,798,000	0.0%
<b>TOTAL LEGACY INVESTMENTS</b>		<b>\$ 133,208,000</b>	<b>\$ (5,080,000)</b>	<b>\$ 128,128,000</b>	<b>-3.8%</b>
<b>RESEARCH AND EVALUATION</b>					
33	Data Development and Integration	\$ 2,527,000	\$ -	\$ 2,527,000	0.0%
34	Data Partnership with Funders	900,000	-	900,000	0.0%
35	Program Evaluation	4,240,000	(334,000)	3,906,000	-7.9%
<b>TOTAL RESEARCH AND EVALUATION</b>		<b>\$ 7,667,000</b>	<b>\$ (334,000)</b>	<b>\$ 7,333,000</b>	<b>-4.4%</b>
<b>TOTAL FIRST 5 LA PROGRAM BUDGET</b>		<b>\$ 208,922,000</b>	<b>\$ (11,462,000)</b>	<b>\$ 197,460,000</b>	<b>-5.5%</b>

INITIATIVE NAME	PROGRAM NAME	APPROVED FY 2015-16 BUDGET	PROPOSED ADJUSTMENTS	REVISED FY 2015-16 BUDGET	% CHANGE
<b>2015-2020 STRATEGIC PLAN: FOCUSING FOR THE FUTURE</b>					
<b><i>Investments and Approaches Reaffirmed by the Board and Aligned with SP</i></b>					
Families: Place-Based - Welcome Baby/Select Home Visiting	Family Strengthening Oversight Entity	\$ 3,418,000	\$ -	\$ 3,418,000	0%
	Family Strengthening Public Education	100,000	-	100,000	0%
	Select Home Visitation Programs	17,183,000	(4,315,000)	12,868,000	-25%
	Welcome Baby Hospitals	15,902,000	(1,322,000)	14,580,000	-8%
Communities: Place-Based - Community Capacity Building	Best Start Metro LA	1,112,000	-	1,112,000	0%
	Long-Term Business Model Transition	28,000	67,000	95,000	239%
	Marketing & Communications	1,870,000	(670,000)	1,200,000	-36%
	Partnership Capacity Building	2,933,000	(307,000)	2,626,000	-10%
	Partnership Support	2,323,000	1,270,000	3,593,000	55%
	Resident Engagement	3,520,000	-	3,520,000	0%
	Results-Focused Actions	5,243,000	(1,253,000)	3,990,000	-24%
Policy Agenda/Advocacy	Early Learning Advocacy Strategies	2,055,000	-	2,055,000	0%
	Federal Policy and Sustainability Advocate	127,000	-	127,000	0%
	Opinion Research	75,000	-	75,000	0%
	Policy Briefs	100,000	-	100,000	0%
	State Policy and Sustainability Advocate	440,000	-	440,000	0%
Communications & Marketing	Communications & Marketing	4,672,000	-	4,672,000	0%
Communications - Conference Funding	Conference Funding	200,000	-	200,000	0%
<b><i>Sub-Total</i></b>		<b>\$ 61,301,000</b>	<b>\$ (6,530,000)</b>	<b>\$ 54,771,000</b>	<b>-11%</b>
<b><i>Existing Investments Potentially Aligned with SP</i></b>					
Healthy Kids	Healthy Kids Insurance Coverage	\$ 250,000	\$ 380,000	\$ 630,000	152%
	Healthy Kids Outreach, Enrollment, Retention, and Utilization	2,000,000	102,000	2,102,000	5%
Information Resource and Referral	211 LA County	1,340,000	-	1,340,000	0%
	Performance Based Agreement (Consulting)	20,000	-	20,000	0%
<b><i>Sub-Total</i></b>		<b>\$ 3,610,000</b>	<b>\$ 482,000</b>	<b>\$ 4,092,000</b>	<b>13%</b>
<b><i>New Investments Under Development, to be Aligned with SP (Strategic Plan Implementation Fund)</i></b>					
Families		\$ 636,000	\$ -	\$ 636,000	0%
Communities		1,093,750	-	1,093,750	0%
Early Care & Education (ECE) Systems		370,000	-	370,000	0%
Health, Mental Health & Substance Abuse Systems		546,250	-	546,250	0%
Other/Cross-Cutting Activities		490,000	-	490,000	0%
<b><i>Sub-Total</i></b>		<b>\$ 3,136,000</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 3,136,000</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>TOTAL 2015-2020 STRATEGIC PLAN: FOCUSING FOR THE FUTURE</b>		<b>\$ 68,047,000</b>	<b>\$ (6,048,000)</b>	<b>\$ 61,999,000</b>	<b>-9%</b>

INITIATIVE NAME	PROGRAM NAME	APPROVED FY 2015-16 BUDGET	PROPOSED ADJUSTMENTS	REVISED FY 2015-16 BUDGET	% CHANGE
<b>LEGACY INVESTMENTS</b>					
At-Risk Fathers Investment	At-Risk Fathers Investment	\$ 150,000	\$ -	\$ 150,000	0%
Baby Friendly Hospitals	Baby Friendly Hospital Project - Cycle 2	-	274,000	274,000	N/A
	Baby Friendly Hospital Project - Cycle 3	645,000	(168,000)	477,000	-26%
	Baby Friendly Hospital Project - Cycle 4	600,000	-	600,000	0%
Black Infant Health	Birth Outcomes and Disparities – Policy and Systems Change	500,000	-	500,000	0%
	Black Infant Health Program	1,455,000	-	1,455,000	0%
Children's Dental Care	Children's Dental Care Program	10,656,000	-	10,656,000	0%
Children's Vision Care	Children's Vision Care	1,341,000	-	1,341,000	0%
Early Identification and Intervention - Autism and Other Developmental Delays	Early Identification and Intervention - Autism and Other Developmental Delays	818,000	128,000	946,000	16%
ECE Environmental Scan	ECE Environmental Scan	80,000	-	80,000	0%
Healthy Food Access	Children's Garden Collaborative	1,389,000	-	1,389,000	0%
	Market Match	675,000	-	675,000	0%
Little by Little/One Step Ahead	Little by Little/One Step Ahead Program	3,515,000	-	3,515,000	0%
Los Angeles Universal Preschool	Los Angeles Universal Preschool	55,423,000	-	55,423,000	0%
Oral Health & Nutrition - Dental Home	Oral Health & Nutrition - Dental Home	3,904,000	(490,000)	3,414,000	-13%
Parent Child Interaction Therapy	Parent Child Interaction Therapy	4,642,000	(1,900,000)	2,742,000	-41%
Partnerships for Families	Partnerships for Families	150,000	-	150,000	0%
Peer Support Groups for Parents	Peer Support Groups Lead Agency	1,352,000	(425,000)	927,000	-31%
	Peer Support Groups Training and Technical Assistance Provider	117,000	-	117,000	0%
Policy Advocacy Fund	Policy Advocacy Fund - I	805,000	-	805,000	0%
	Policy Advocacy Fund - II	1,276,000	-	1,276,000	0%
	Policy Advocacy Fund Technical Assistance Provider	113,000	-	113,000	0%
Reducing Childhood Obesity	Reducing Childhood Obesity	15,462,000	-	15,462,000	0%
Resource Mobilization - ECE	ECE Recoverable Grant	925,000	(700,000)	225,000	-76%
	Grade Level Reading Campaign	300,000	-	300,000	0%
Resource Mobilization - Funder Partnerships	Emerging Funder Collaboratives	30,000	-	30,000	0%
	LA-N-Sync	15,000	-	15,000	0%
	Los Angeles Partnership for Early Childhood Investment	15,000	-	15,000	0%
Resource Mobilization - Health	Early Childhood Linkages to Wellness	1,250,000	-	1,250,000	0%
	Freshworks Fund	290,000	-	290,000	0%
Resource Mobilization - Organizational Capacity Building	Organizational Capacity Building	550,000	-	550,000	0%
Resource Mobilization - Project Development	Consulting	-	5,000	5,000	N/A
Tot Parks and Trails	Tot Parks and Trails	660,000	-	660,000	0%
Universal Assessment of Newborns	Welcome Baby Hospitals	8,785,000	(1,804,000)	6,981,000	-21%
Workforce Development	CARES Plus	2,000,000	-	2,000,000	0%
	P-5 Workforce Development Core Competencies	522,000	-	522,000	0%
Workforce Development - ECE Workforce Consortium	ECE Workforce Consortium	12,798,000	-	12,798,000	0%
<b>TOTAL LEGACY INVESTMENTS</b>		<b>\$ 133,208,000</b>	<b>\$ (5,080,000)</b>	<b>\$ 128,128,000</b>	<b>-4%</b>

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INITIATIVE NAME	PROGRAM NAME	APPROVED FY 2015-16 BUDGET	PROPOSED ADJUSTMENTS	REVISED FY 2015-16 BUDGET	% CHANGE
<b>RESEARCH AND EVALUATION</b>					
Data Development and Integration	Data Consultant	\$ 8,000	\$ -	\$ 8,000	0%
	Data Requests	10,000	(1,000)	9,000	-10%
	Dissemination	42,000	-	42,000	0%
	First 5 LA Contracts and Grants Program Reporting Database	200,000	(13,000)	187,000	-7%
	Los Angeles County Health Survey	108,000	34,000	142,000	31%
	Los Angeles County P-5 Asset Mapping	13,000	(13,000)	-	-100%
	Los Angeles Mommy and Baby (LAMB) Project	260,000	-	260,000	0%
	Maternal Infant Hospital Assessment	105,000	-	105,000	0%
	Stronger Families Database	880,000	(7,000)	873,000	-1%
	WIC Data Mining Research Partnership	320,000	-	320,000	0%
Data Partnership with Funders	Workforce Registry	581,000	-	581,000	0%
	Children's Data Network (CDN)	900,000	-	900,000	0%
Program Evaluation	Best Start Evaluation	285,000	89,000	374,000	31%
	Countywide Systems Improvement Evaluation	61,000	33,000	94,000	54%
	Early Identification and Intervention - Autism and Other Developmental Delays Evaluation	100,000	(35,000)	65,000	-35%
	Little by Little/One Step Ahead Evaluation	10,000	(5,000)	5,000	-50%
	Los Angeles Universal Preschool Evaluation - Universal Preschool Child Outcomes Study	109,000	-	109,000	0%
	Medi-Cal Match Feasibility Study	45,000	3,000	48,000	7%
	Obesity Prevention & Nutrition Collective Impact Evaluation	720,000	-	720,000	0%
	Parent-Child Interaction Therapy Evaluation	47,000	-	47,000	0%
	Peer Support Groups for Parents Implementation Evaluation	62,000	-	62,000	0%
	Professional Development Program Evaluation	1,501,000	-	1,501,000	0%
	Professional Development System Study	340,000	(340,000)	-	-100%
	Universal Screening Psychometric Study	170,000	13,000	183,000	8%
Welcome Baby Impact Study	275,000	(92,000)	183,000	-33%	
Welcome Baby Implementation and Outcomes Evaluation	515,000	-	515,000	0%	
<b>TOTAL RESEARCH AND EVALUATION</b>		<b>\$ 7,667,000</b>	<b>\$ (334,000)</b>	<b>\$ 7,333,000</b>	<b>-4%</b>
<b>TOTAL FIRST 5 LA PROGRAM BUDGET</b>		<b>\$ 208,922,000</b>	<b>\$ (11,462,000)</b>	<b>\$ 197,460,000</b>	<b>-5%</b>

**BUDGET SUMMARY FY 2015-16**  
**Mid-Year Adjustments**

		<b>Approved FY 2015-16 Budget</b>	<b>Estimated FY 2015-16 Expenditures</b>	<b>Projected Savings/ (Shortfalls)</b>	<b>Mid-Year Adjustments</b>	<b>Revised FY 2015-16 Budget</b>
<b>Personnel Services</b>						
	Total Salaries	12,387,038	11,785,481	601,557	-	12,387,038
	Total Employee Benefits	3,980,943	3,148,026	832,917	-	3,980,943
	<b>Total Personnel Services</b>	<b>16,367,981</b>	<b>14,933,507</b>	<b>1,434,474</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>16,367,981</b>
<b>General Operating Expenses</b>						
6131	ADP Payroll Charges	31,000	31,000	-	-	31,000
6132	Workers' Compensation Insurance	100,000	90,173	9,827	-	100,000
6202	Utilities	155,000	163,000	(8,000)	10,000	165,000
6203	Corporate Insurance	76,000	66,136	9,864	-	76,000
6205	Mileage and Parking	61,850	41,657	20,193	4,000	65,850
6206	Telephones and Modems	65,000	45,800	19,200	(19,200)	45,800
6207	Cell Phones and Mobile Devices	52,250	38,000	14,250	(8,900)	43,350
6208	Outside Printing	19,200	16,566	2,634	2,500	21,700
6209	Other Supplies	12,150	12,000	150	-	12,150
6210	Postage and Delivery	13,300	13,400	(100)	200	13,500
6211	Educational Supplies	5,300	818	4,482	-	5,300
6212	Office Supplies	83,980	58,375	25,605	(4,200)	79,780
6214	Subscriptions and Publications	10,060	4,096	5,964	(200)	9,860
6218	Equipment Rental	118,200	110,000	8,200	-	118,200
6220	Building Repairs and Maintenance	180,000	180,000	-	-	180,000
6221	Equipment Repairs and Maintenance	32,000	5,173	26,827	(5,000)	27,000
6222	Offsite Storage	23,700	17,397	6,303	-	23,700
6223	Hardware and Software Maintenance	258,000	200,405	57,595	(30,000)	228,000
6230	Miscellaneous Service Charges	27,000	12,000	15,000	-	27,000
6231	Miscellaneous/Contingency	75,000	44,295	30,705	(4,800)	70,200
	<b>Total General Operating Expenses</b>	<b>1,398,990</b>	<b>1,150,292</b>	<b>248,698</b>	<b>(55,600)</b>	<b>1,343,390</b>
<b>Professional Services</b>						
6502	Audit	70,000	70,000	-	-	70,000
6504	Legal	175,000	162,000	13,000	-	175,000
6507	Professional Dues	82,100	22,950	59,150	4,250	86,350
6508	Professional Dues - First 5 Association	50,000	50,000	-	-	50,000
6509	Professional Development	210,800	75,327	135,473	(7,855)	202,945
6512	Staff Recruitment	25,000	16,902	8,098	-	25,000
6514	Commission Stipends	34,000	33,000	1,000	-	34,000
6606	Human Resources Related Costs	68,000	36,000	32,000	-	68,000
	<b>Total Professional Services</b>	<b>714,900</b>	<b>466,179</b>	<b>248,721</b>	<b>(3,605)</b>	<b>711,295</b>
<b>Consultant Services</b>						
6601	Consultant Fees	1,491,000	1,079,190	411,810	(2,295)	1,488,705
6602	Other Professional Fees	237,500	269,000	(31,500)	39,450	276,950
6603	External Reviewers	5,000	12,800	(7,800)	7,800	12,800
	<b>Total Consultant Services</b>	<b>1,733,500</b>	<b>1,360,990</b>	<b>372,510</b>	<b>44,955</b>	<b>1,778,455</b>
<b>Travel and Meeting Expenses</b>						
6701	Airfare	86,242	37,230	49,012	9,000	95,242
6702	Program Events	40,000	40,000	-	-	40,000
6703	Lodging	84,876	45,332	39,544	10,400	95,276
6704	Conference Registration	89,485	69,428	20,057	12,180	101,665
6706	Local Meetings	115,900	33,552	82,348	(21,580)	94,320
6707	Per Diem	42,488	25,211	17,277	4,250	46,738
	<b>Total Travel and Meeting Expenses</b>	<b>458,991</b>	<b>250,752</b>	<b>208,239</b>	<b>14,250</b>	<b>473,241</b>
<b>Capital Improvements</b>						
6216	Capital Outlay	120,000	100,000	20,000	-	120,000
6302	Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-	-
	<b>Total Capital Improvements</b>	<b>120,000</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>120,000</b>
	<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>20,794,362</b>	<b>18,261,721</b>	<b>2,532,641</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>20,794,362</b>

**FY 2015-16**

# **Mid-Year Budget Adjustments**

**Board of Commissioners Meeting**

**March 10, 2016**

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# Overview & Approach

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Process: Consistent with prior year, we consolidated all adjustments into a single mid-year process

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Proposed adjustments include both additional identified needs as well as areas where reductions to spending authority are appropriate based on analysis of spending and updated information

# Policy Guardrails

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Operating: Adjustments between line items in excess of \$25,000 must be brought to the Board of Commissioners for approval

- Historically have provided the Board with detail of all adjustments between line items, regardless of amount to provide full context and ensure transparency

Program: All adjustments to approved Program budget amounts must be brought to the Board of Commissioners for approval

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# FY 2015-16 Budget Summary

Budget Component	Approved FY 15-16 Budget	Proposed Adjustments	Revised FY 15-16 Budget	% Change
Program				
2015-2020 Strategic Plan: Focusing for the Future	\$ 68,047,000	\$ (6,048,000)	\$ 61,999,000	-8.9%
Legacy Initiatives	133,208,000	(5,080,000)	128,128,000	-3.8%
Research & Evaluation	7,667,000	(334,000)	7,333,000	-4.4%
Total Program	\$ 208,922,000	\$ (11,462,000)	\$ 197,460,000	-5.5%
Operating	20,794,362	-	20,794,362	0.0%
Total FY 2015-16 Budget	\$ 229,716,362	\$ (11,462,000)	\$ 218,254,362	-5.0%

# Program Highlights

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Highlights are provided in the accompanying memo at the initiative level

Increases – do not represent requests for new funding; reflect spending within an approved allocation, existing contract, or funding previously approved by the Board through the expiring initiatives assessment process

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# Program Highlights

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Reductions – represent revisions to original budget estimates, primarily driven by:

- Updated information or changing circumstances
  - Final contract negotiations vs. budget estimates
  - Updated spending projections
  - Updated information regarding programmatic outcomes, targets or deliverables
- Delays in:
  - Procurement and contract negotiation processes (Internal)
  - Subcontracting process; hiring (External)

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# Program Highlights

Initiative/Program	Approved FY 15-16 Budget	Proposed Adjustments	Revised FY 15-16 Budget	% Change
Families: Welcome Baby/Select Home Visiting				
Welcome Baby Hospitals	\$ 15,902,000	\$ (1,322,000)	\$ 14,580,000	-8.3%
Select Home Visiting	17,183,000	(4,315,000)	12,868,000	-25.1%
Oversight Entity	3,418,000	-	3,418,000	0.0%
Public Education	100,000	-	100,000	0.0%
Universal Assessment of Newborns	8,785,000	(1,804,000)	6,981,000	-20.5%
<b>Total Home Visiting Investments</b>	<b>\$ 45,388,000</b>	<b>\$ (7,441,000)</b>	<b>\$ 37,947,000</b>	<b>-16.4%</b>

- Elimination of one hospital from Welcome Baby and Universal Assessment budget estimates
- One Select Home Visiting contractor chose to terminate their contract effective March 2016
- Contractor staff turnover, lower than anticipated enrollments and related program materials
- Elimination of a 5% contingency that was built into initial budget estimates to account for unknown variables during contract negotiation

# Operating Highlights

- Cost Neutral = no additional funds requested
- The administrative limit remains within the dollar amount limit approved by the Board of \$11.4 million.

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Operating Cost Category	Approved FY 15-16 Budget	Proposed Adjustments	Revised FY 15-16 Budget	% Change
Personnel Services	\$ 16,367,981	\$ -	\$ 16,367,981	0.0%
General Operating Expenses	1,398,990	(55,600)	1,343,390	-4.0%
Professional Services	714,900	(3,605)	711,295	-0.5%
Consultant Services	1,733,500	44,955	1,778,455	2.6%
Travel & Meeting Expenses	458,991	14,250	473,241	3.1%
Capital Improvements	120,000	-	120,000	0.0%
<b>Total Operating Costs</b>	<b>\$ 20,794,362</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 20,794,362</b>	<b>0.0%</b>

# Next Steps

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- March 22, 2016: Return to B&F for further discussion, if needed
- April 14, 2016: Commission action item (Consent)

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## Adjustments will inform:

- Development of the FY 2016-17 Budget
- Reaffirmation process prior to June 30
  - All levels of fund balance will be evaluated for appropriateness and potential modifications

# QUESTIONS?



# Strategic Communications Overview

Gabriel Sanchez, Director  
Communications and Marketing  
Department

March 10, 2016

199



First5LA.org

# Presentation Overview

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- Strategic Communications in Context
- Our Approach to Make a Broader Impact
- How We Are Using Communications
- Future Information and Action Items to the Board

200

# In Context: Looking Back

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## Findings from 2012-13 Brand Perception Study

- No clear understanding of our story and strategic focus
- Low brand awareness
- Confusion over what impact we had on children prenatal to age 5
- Desire for First 5 LA to be a leader & convener

201

# In Context: Looking Forward

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Our approach to strategic communications is informed by:

- Lessons learned from the past
- Our fundamental focus on improving outcomes for kids
- Our understanding of how communications can contribute to better outcomes for children

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# Our Approach

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First 5 LA recognizes every mode, medium and method in which we communicate – on our own or in partnership with external groups – is an opportunity to advance the programmatic and policy goals of the Strategic Plan and make a broader impact for children and families.

203

# Our Approach: What's Different

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- Working across internal departments to maximize impact
- Leveraging partner and grantee relationships to broaden impact
- Measuring outcomes and adjusting to have the greatest impact possible.

204

# Our Approach: New Channels

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- Communications channels have multiplied exponentially and continue to evolve.
- Developing our use of new channels.
- Our goal is to reach our intended audiences where they live, work, play and pray.

205

# How We Are Using Communications

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We are using communications to:

- Build our Brand
- Engage Decision Makers
- Elevate Awareness and Create Urgency
- Support Internal Communications

206

# Building Our Brand

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Establishing First 5 LA's brand as a leading early childhood advocate

- Early Childhood Matters newsletter
- Revised brand ambassador trainings
- Event and conference sponsorships

207

# Engaging Decision Makers

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Elevate the quantity and quality of news coverage on issues affecting young children.

208

- Early care and education
- Health care systems

# Elevating Awareness

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- Public awareness campaign to engage parents and caregivers
- Partnering with Best Start Community Partnerships to engage community groups and leaders

209

# Creating Urgency

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- Partnering with other funders on joint communications activities
- Supporting integration of communications activities in all First 5 LA efforts and initiatives

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# Internal Communications

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We will use internal communications to help us present a cohesive, consistent story about First 5 LA.

- Revised brand ambassador training
- Development of an internal newsletter
- Develop communications capacity building of First 5 LA grantees and partners

211

# Measuring Impact

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- Using Digital Campaign Analytics
- Qualitative and quantitative research
- Integrating First 5 LA's Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) framework to ensure formal learning is incorporated into all communications projects.

212

# What's Next

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## **April 14 Board meeting**

- Consistent to the Board-approved budget, seek Board approval to execute contract with a Strategic Marketing and Communications Agency

213

## **April 28 Program and Planning Committee meeting**

- Informational overview of public awareness campaign on family strengthening
- Informational overview of investments in development to engage decision makers on early care and education, and health care systems issues

## **May 12 Board meeting**

- Seek Board approval for a strategic partnership for early childhood development tools into Welcome Baby parent kits

# Questions?

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# Thank you.

