

# Executive Director Report

AUGUST 2016

small hands,  
BIG RESULTS



KAREN E. SCOTT  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



## A Message from the ED



 As we enter the last of the "dog days of summer", which in one definition is said to be not just the time the Dog Star rises at the same time as the Sun, but also a period marked by lethargy, inactivity or indolence - I am happy to share that the work of First 5 San Bernardino has been

anything but!

We began our summer with the installation of a new First 5 Commissioner, Stacy Iverson, CEO of Children's Fund - and sadly we will end the summer with the departure of our long-standing Commissioner and Commission Chair, Linda Haugan, Assistant Executive Officer for Human Services, who will retire in October. Ms. Haugan has served as a passionate advocate for children, families and service providers with First 5 San Bernardino since 2005 and will be greatly missed! In October, we will welcome CaSonya Thomas,

(currently Director of the Department of Behavioral Health for the County of San Bernardino), as the next standing First 5 Commissioner as she takes the reins as the Assistant Executive Officer for the Human Services departments.

Congratulations to Ms. Thomas!

Summer marks the end of the fiscal year and now the beginning of FY 2016/17 with F5SB. Our dedicated team of Staff Analysts, Accountants and other supporting fiscal staff are completing close-out activities with our contracted agencies for FY 2015/16. Fiscal information will inform the Annual Audit and those results will be presented at the October 2016 Commission meeting.

The F5SB Evaluation staff is analyzing and finalizing data input for the year in preparation for completion of the Annual Report, a highlight of accomplishments and outcomes attained with the Commission's investments and collaborations.



August  
2016

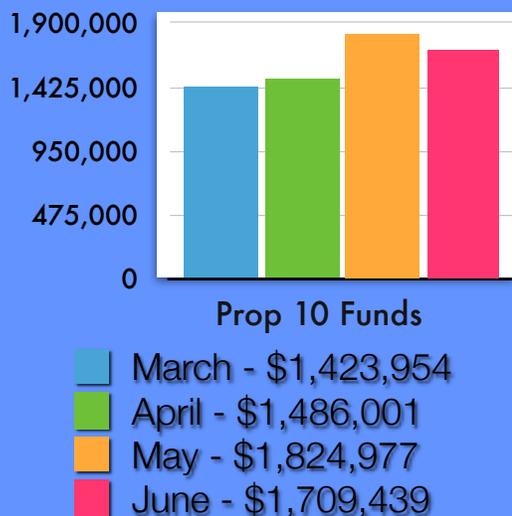
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## Updates

### Fiscal Update

F5SB received the monthly revenue from Prop 10 funds in the amount of \$1,709,439 for June 2016. This revenue funds First 5 San Bernardino programs and services.



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## The Importance of Water Safety



Where have the majority of water incidents happened in San Bernardino County?

Found out on page 4.

## ED Message (continued from front page)

The report will be presented in public forum in October.

The F5SB Advisory Committee had the summer off but will return in high gear to engage in strategic planning and intentional development of recommendations to the Commission to uphold the mission, to continue to effectively serve and support children - prenatal through age 5 and their families.

As First 5 Commission's across the State recognize and address the challenge of declining revenues to operate programs, we have had opportunity to share best practices, evaluate and assess our needs and data, and to explore new approaches, both local and national, to improving the lives of young children and their families. We have spent the summer honing knowledge and skills that support a Collective Impact approach to Systems and Capacity Building.

Support to early care and education is moving full steam ahead with the work of the Quality Rating Improvement System (QRIS) Consortium for San Bernardino County, led by F5SB and funded by the awarded \$5 million IMPACT grant. Today's renewal of the contract with Prevent Child Abuse America continues the Commission's strategy to utilize AmeriCorps members to further impact and meet the "one-on-one" educational needs of preschoolers in selected programs.

Lessons learned through local and national conferences, webinars and other technical assistance will be weaved through the Commission's work to integrate systems and system structures - where stakeholders are able to effectively and efficiently work together to impact the future of a child and the strength of their family. Some of these systems include those that focus on children's oral health and child physical, social and emotional wellness. Great movement is in store with the Commission related to Reach Out and Read (literacy improvement focus in partnership with the American Academy of Pediatrics and local pediatricians) and Help Me Grow (support of universal developmental screening and coordinated resource and referral).

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## AmeriCorps Corner: Farewell Liliana Ferrer!



First 5 San Bernardino bids farewell to AmeriCorps Preschool Coach volunteer Liliana Ferrer as she embarks on her career in social services. Liliana spent three years with First 5 San Bernardino AmeriCorps assisting children with literacy and learning development at preschool sites in San Bernardino County. She was also a crowd favorite as Toy Story character "Jessie" during community engagement events to promote Talk.Read.Sing.® with children and families.

Liliana worked on special AmeriCorps community projects including the mural at E. Neal Roberts Elementary School in San Bernardino, beautification of San Bernardino County Preschool site Westminster in Ontario, and AmeriCorps Cesar Chavez Service Day. Thank you Liliana for your service and dedication to children in San Bernardino County with First 5 San Bernardino!

### ED Message (continued from page 2)

The Commission will see impressive outcomes with its funded Nurturing Parenting Programs (NPP) for FY 2015/16 and will have an opportunity to explore the value and impact of integrating Home Visitation into this system of support.

And finally, Commission staff has had the opportunity to meet with some of our local legislators over this summer period where we found strong champions and genuine support of children's issues. We are witnessing an unprecedented, bi-partisan spirit of commitment and engagement to improving the

lives of the next generation! It is wonderful to see that the "brain science" related to the importance of early childhood development is becoming common knowledge. We are part of a movement that can make positive change to support parents and families, strengthen our work force and ensure the optimal healthy development and school readiness of our youngest children!

Enjoy the rest of summer!

## Seconds Out of Sight: The Importance of Water Safety for Our Children

With hot weather, the dangers of water-related incidents increase, especially for children under the age of 5. In 2015, children under the age of 18 in San Bernardino County accounted for a total number of 49 out of the 70 submersion incidents according to Safe Kids Inland Empire. First 5 San Bernardino's annual water safety campaign addresses this preventable danger to ensure that everyone is aware of key steps to have a safe summer.



For details on this law and requirements, visit the California Department of Public Health website at [www.cdph.ca.gov](http://www.cdph.ca.gov).

**C – Classes & Preparation:** Teach your children how to swim as soon as they show interest. Try taking your kids to classes this summer and join in! Classes are often hosted

Here are the ABC's to a safe summer for the family:

**A – Active Adult Supervision:** Keeping an active, watchful eye can save a life. Most child victims are supervised by one or both parents when water-related accidents occur. In 2009, 77% of child victims were missing for five minutes or less when they were found in the pool drowned or submerged.

**B – Barriers:** Children can drown without a sound. Keeping barriers around your pools and other recreational water sources can prevent the silent and sudden moments that can lead to a drowning. Barriers such as fencing, gates, latches, alarms, pool safety nets, and pool safety covers that successfully prevent a child from getting over, under or through the barrier to the pool area are ideal solutions. California requires by law for any new or remodeled pools built after January 1, 2007 to have at least one required safety feature.

within municipal parks and recreation departments and community centers. Dial 2-1-1 for resources in your area. Additionally, taking classes in CPR can prepare you in the event that a submersion incident occurs.

Learn proper rescue techniques and keep rescue equipment accessible at the poolside or recreational water area.

### 5 Cities in San Bernardino County with the highest reported water submersions in 2015 for adults & children:

Rancho Cucamonga - 8

San Bernardino - 8

Victorville - 5

Rialto - 5

Ontario - 5