

Executive Director Report

small hands,
BIG RESULTS



KAREN E. SCOTT
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



A Message from the ED



 First 5 San Bernardino is happy to welcome 3 new Staff Analysts to our team – Dr. Wendy Lee, Justin Dailey and Renee Jones!

Dr. Lee comes to us from the County Department of Behavioral Health where she was a Social Worker II.

She has a long career history of working with children and families and has a particular interest in developmental concerns for children 0-3.

Mr. Dailey comes from the financial sector but has vast experience in analysis, project management and product design.

Renee has experience in research, analysis and program development, promoting through several positions before becoming an Associate Account Manager with Kaiser Permanente.

We will certainly put their experience and skills to the test as First 5 San Bernardino continues its journey of building and supporting collaborative systems that

strengthen families and communities and, help young children reach their full potential in education and in life.

As First 5 Commissions ramp up to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the creation of Prop 10, Executive Directors were contacted in August, by a University of Southern California 2018 Center for Healthcare Journalism fellow, and asked to complete a survey to inform a piece she was doing entitled “First 5 at 20 Years” for Education Dive. This was a great opportunity to advance our network frame and messaging, which you will learn more about at a Commissioner Retreat, (which is in the planning stages) as well as our Advisory Committee convenings, where members are beginning to contribute ideas and recommendations for the Commission’s next Strategic Plan.

The first inquiry of the survey was about how First 5 San Bernardino has been affected by declining Prop 10 tobacco tax revenues. I was able to share that yes, there was some elimination or cutting back on program or services but we also have begun to apply successfully for grants and other funding to further



September
2018

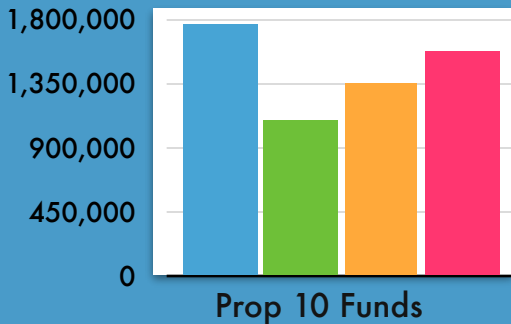
(continued on page 3)



Updates

Fiscal Update

F5SB received Prop 10 funds in the amount of \$1,576,754 in the month of April. This revenue funds First 5 San Bernardino programs and services.



- January - \$1,763,407
- February - \$1,100,503
- March - \$1,357,389
- April - \$1,576,754

Follow us on LinkedIn

Are you on LinkedIn? Connect with First 5 San Bernardino for professional news at www.linkedin.com/in/first5sanbernardino



Save the Date for our Kick-off Anniversary Celebration Reception

Tuesday, November 6, 2018

More information coming soon!

AmeriCorps: Twentynine Palms Back to School Bash



Members of the AmeriCorps PATH program assisted First 5 San Bernardino in community engagement and outreach on August 10, 2018 in Twentynine Palms, CA for the Back To School Bash hosted by MCCS and The School Liaison Program. The event was held as a means to welcome the new school year for all military families living on the marine base which is at the center of Twentynine Palms.



The event provided the children of these families with books, backpacks, writing supplies, as well as other necessities provided from other organizations such as Feed the Children and many other San Bernardino County organizations and nonprofits. Aside from the excitement of preparing for the new school year, the children were treated to a massive play area filled with jumpers and games, all involving water, the have some fun and beat the summer heat. Learn more about AmeriCorps by visiting www.first5americorps.com as they share stories and photos from their service activities around San Bernardino County.

the Prop 10 objectives and our strategic plan goals. In addition, I shared that for more than 10 years now, the Commission has planned its construction of Prop 10 investments very strategically to support children and families through a long range lens, recognizing that funding, which was never fully adequate, has steadily decreased by at least 3% per year, but at the same time, the Commission remains passionately committed to making life long improvements to the lives of as many babies and young children as possible. Our County is one of many with great needs but huge potential. As the First 5 Commission strives to further its mission and achieve positive outcomes for our youngest residents, we thoughtfully and strategically adjust our approach; we serve as subject matter experts providing leadership within the County in the development of support systems serving prenatal through age 5 children, we serve as convener with community and stakeholders from multiple sectors in work that results in sustainable and collective impact, we support capacity building for providers of services, we develop deeper, meaningful relationships to support collaboration and system connectedness, we learn from our peers, we utilize technology and we capitalize on innovation to continue to see progress experienced over the past 20 years.

Next, Executive Directors were asked “what First 5-funded program or effort in your county are you most proud of and why”? My response was that I was most proud of our Commission’s ability to serve as a leader in the zero to five space! As noted in a recently completed countywide partner satisfaction survey, we enjoy authentic legitimacy for our work, our mission and our strategies and proudly take on the role of convener and collaborator when bringing community stakeholders together to innovate solutions that best serve our pregnant women, young children and their families as well supporting the abilities for successful and coordinated service delivery among our non-profits, faith-based communities, city and County governments, our local education system as well as many other professionals. In such a huge geographical and multi-sector space, it has been mutually beneficial to all, to be able to share not only its resources but First 5s experience, research, data, theory, ideas and

recommendations to support systems that effectively meet the needs of young children and families.

And finally, we were given some choices and were asked “If additional funds were available, what issue would you like the commission in your county to address?” I chose Child Health, Preventing Child Maltreatment, School Readiness/Preschool, Parent Coaching/Parent Education and preparing the Early Childhood Workforce. These all align perfectly with the objectives of our Strategic Plan and the Prop 10 vision! I added that the San Bernardino County Commission is committed to positively impacting the lives of our zero to five population in all of the areas listed above as well as home visitation for at-risk families, comprehensive, coordinated developmental screenings and linkages to services, and quality child care and early childhood education for all children however, significant outcomes cannot be achieved in a piece meal, segmented manner, especially with declining Prop 10 revenue. More and more, our Statewide Network of First 5s are recognizing the need for uniting and identifying, creating and shoring up a systems change strategy that achieves sustained social change. The outcomes for our children are affected by the experiences, the capabilities, beliefs, attitudes, the inequities and other difficulties of their pregnant moms, their families and their communities. Our child and societal problems are exacerbated as a function of how institutions behave, of policy decisions, of the way markets operate and even public attitudes and cultural norms. The “cause and effect” phenomenon illustrates the complexity involved in improving systems that support positive social change – change that is institutionalized and adopted and supported by policy makers and many payers. If additional funds were available to the First 5 San Bernardino Commission, we would concentrate on leading our multi-sector, countywide, child and family serving stakeholders, through a collaborative and joint effort, to improve outcomes for children and our local community as a whole, through strategic systems change development and practice. As a leader, First 5 San Bernardino would provide guidance in understanding our County’s needs and assets as they relate to children, engage multiple actors, map the systems, distribute the leadership and foster a learning culture.

(continued on page 4)

Our focus would be on building a comprehensive, inclusive, equitable, easily navigated early childhood system that promotes the life-long well-being of all children, bringing successful interventions and programs to scale, that effectively support children and families and ideally lessen the drain and negative long-range impacts of poorly supported education and interventions presently realized by society.

My responses to this survey gave me an opportunity to take pause and reflect on our organization's change in direction and strategies in response to lower Prop 10 revenues and what leadership,

collaboration and effective communication looks like for the future. Our systems change and systems development goals are a work in progress! There are many, many questions throughout our communities, our partners and even internal staff and Commission Leadership about what First 5 means by "systems change." I want to bring assurance that we will design and build our plans together as a County, capitalizing on research and peer network learning, with input from the widest possible sectors, with the greatest potential for innovation, influence and positive impact for our children ages prenatal through five and their families. Watch for more information to come and opportunities to serve!

Inland Empire Community Collaborative Thrive Conference - October 5, 2018



NONPROFITS:

REGISTER TODAY

INLAND EMPIRE COMMUNITY COLLABORATIVE THRIVE CONFERENCE

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2018



Jan Masaoka, CEO of the California Association of Nonprofits



George Weiner, Founder Whole Whale

This one-day conference will offer strategies, and toolkits for staff and board members looking to build and sustain their organizations. If your nonprofit organization is interested in finding out more about how to strengthen its ability to fill gaps in services in your community, register today! For more information on the **3rd Annual Inland Empire Community Collaborative Thrive Conference** or to register for the conference, visit the conference website at www.ieccthriveconference.com.