



Minutes: Advisory Committee Meeting

735 E. Carnegie Drive, Suite 150, San Bernardino, California 92408

Meeting Date, Time and Location April 28, 2016
 Scott McGrath, First 5 Supervisor, called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.
 First 5 San Bernardino

Attendees **Advisory Committee**
 Ed Pare, Kathy Turnbull, Ron Griffin, Ken Johnston, Diana Alexander, James Moses, George Lamb, Nathaniel Rodriguez, Kent Paxton, Colleen Hancock, Sonia Rubio

First 5 San Bernardino
 Scott McGrath, Mary Jaquish, Debora Dickerson-Sims, Mary Alvarez, Leslie Fountain, Ann Calkins

Guest
 Matt Kronz, Joelle Greene - Harder+Co

Special Presentation AmeriCorps (Mary Alvarez, Staff Analyst II)

Consent A motion was made by Kathy Turnbull and seconded by Diana Alexander to approve the minutes. Without further comment or objection, motion carried by unanimous vote to approve the minutes.

Item No.	CONSENT
1	Approve Minutes of January 21, 2016 Advisory Committee Meeting

Item No.	INFORMATION
2	<p>Quality Rating Improvement System (QRIS) Update (Presenter: Mary Jaquish)</p> <p>QRIS members met on April 21 and 22. Key decision makers decided it would be best to maintain the current infrastructure of the QRIS with four Operational Leads. They are: Child Care Resource Center (CCRC), San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools, Cal State San Bernardino, and Preschool Services Department. James Moses from CCRC will provide updates to the group related to policy and legislation which may affect decision making on the local level.</p>

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	<p>The group decided that First 5 San Bernardino (F5SB) will continue to serve as the lead agency. F5SB will coordinate with partners and be an administrator over the QRIS IMPACT funds, which is about one million dollars, per year, for the next five years.</p> <p>Mary commended James Moses for taking a great leadership role, and keeping everyone on task and apprised of certain legislative efforts. Mary also thanked the QRIS partners for their work and efforts, as well.</p> <p>CCRC will be leading the quality improvement efforts. The quality improvement work group met on April 12 and are exploring a tiered-incentive system for all providers coming into QRIS.</p> <p>Cal State is exploring utilizing a number of recent Cal State graduates to conduct policy assessments for those groups interested in taking part in QRIS.</p> <p>The communication workgroup met on April 22. Discussion was focused on branding and outreach to providers, and recruitment of providers. A brand “name” was selected for the QRIS, “Quality Start”. First 5 Orange County and First 5 Los Angeles share the same QRIS name. As it becomes known in the public and community, the hope is the name will be associated with QRIS.</p> <p>An item on F5SB’s May 4 Commission agenda pertains to stipends for the QRIS Operational Partners which was a condition of the IMPACT application. The stipend is for those who are taking the extra time to be a part of this process, aside from their already busy agency schedule.</p> <p>Mary suggested Advisory members review the documents on the link below to learn more about QRIS efforts going on in California and throughout the United States: https://qrisguide.acf.hhs.gov/</p>
3	<p>Reach Out and Read (ROAR) Update (Presenter: Mary Jaquish, Supervisor)</p> <p><i>Reach Out and Read gives young children a foundation for success by incorporating books into pediatric care and encouraging families to read aloud together. Doctors and other medical professionals incorporate Reach Out and Read's evidence-based model into regular pediatric checkups:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Trained doctors and nurses speak with parents about the importance of reading aloud, starting in infancy.</i>• <i>At each regular checkup from 6 months through 5 years of age, the child receives a new book to take home. The goal is to connect reading as a vital practice in early development and provide families with books to build home libraries to instill a culture of reading.</i> <p>F5SB hosted an informational dinner on November 5, 2015 for pediatricians and pediatric medical representatives to introduce the Reach Out and Read program and gain interest from the local medical community. Kaiser Permanente doctors have participated in this program for a number of years.</p> <p>Recognizing the value of and need for early literacy, F5SB partnered with the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) - CA Chapter 2 to bring pediatricians on board with adopting and implementing Reach Out and Read. Dr. Edward Curry from AAP is a strong supporter of this program and has been instrumental in spreading the word to as many pediatricians as possible.</p>

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	<p>Forty doctors attended the November event and 16 applied to participate. There is some reservation among doctors to participate due to (possibly) lack of staff and insufficient time to talk at length about the importance of reading with the parents who bring their children for their well-baby check-ups. F5SB will provide the first year supply of books for the pediatric offices over the funding period of January 2016 through June 2017. F5SB is also partnering with IEHP, who will host an informational dinner on May 19. The American Academy of Pediatrics will host one in the High Desert on June 1st.</p> <p>Ken Johnston asked if AmeriCorp volunteers are available to possibly assist in this effort, especially those offices with a high volume of patients. Mary replied that this option could be explored. F5SB is committed to supporting early literacy and will develop strategies to sustain the Reach Out and Read program by identifying and linking resources for additional books to participating practices beyond the initial funding period.</p>
4	<p>Footsteps2Brilliance (F2B) (Presenter: Scott McGrath)</p> <p>Scott presented a short introductory video for the members which described the program. F2B utilizes a mobile app which is a breakthrough early learning solution that helps all children become proficient readers by 3rd grade. F2B has a flexible licensing model which allows school districts to provide unlimited access to all pre-K through 3rd grade children who live within their jurisdiction even before they enroll in their schools.</p> <p>Scott explained how the partnership developed with F2B. Diana stated in addition to the research and the possibility to follow the County's children (about 1500 to start) from pre-school to Kindergarten, that data could be developed to illustrate the children's progress. Diana mentioned that she, along with Stacy Iverson, Ed Pare and a few others were invited to visit a school in the Snowline district who is already using Footsteps2Brilliance and were able to see for themselves how well the children responded to the program. Diana also mentioned she has been invited by the Napa Superintendent to visit their schools.</p> <p>Scott stated there are great opportunities for evaluation from this program and the data which will be produced by its users. F2B provided a \$5 million dollar grant to make this accessible for all county residents. F2B has found not only are children utilizing the program at home, in addition to school, but that parents are able to learn to read from this program as well.</p> <p>George Lamb asked how the co-horts were chosen. Diana stated after listening to some advice from Mr. Spencer and his team in determining the best type of co-hort to have, it was decided to focus on a pre-school population since it fits in with the whole Countywide Vision, Cradle to Career. The two largest populations were chosen that offer preschool. There was also a fee of about \$300,000 to get on board. First 5 San Bernardino paid the majority of the money with Superintendent of Schools and Preschool Services Department contributing, as well. Mapping was done to look at the locations of the elementary schools in the County based on their English language arts and their scores. Diana stated that the plan is for this program to be part of their curriculum.</p> <p>Diana also mentioned that F2B has reached out to Sprint Corporation to enlist their support of the program by uploading F2B on old cell phones which could then be distributed to schools, free of charge.</p>

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Item No.	DISCUSSION
5	<p>“Strength for the Small” campaign (Presenter: Scott McGrath and Leslie Fountain, Media Specialist II)</p> <p>Originally inspired by the December 2 tragedy, Leslie Fountain created a campaign to manage trauma not only for the children of the victims and their families, but all children in San Bernardino County. The campaign focuses on direct and indirect feelings, reactions, impact and fears that children may have and is intended to help children and families learn how to cope with violence and trauma.</p> <p>Leslie reviewed the document with the committee members to obtain feedback. There was discussion about which departments should be involved in this outreach, such as Behavioral Health (Dr. Kiti Frier-Randall), Children and Family Services, Preschool Services Department, and Children’s Network. It would be valuable to obtain input from professionals who have been highly engaged in those who have suffered this type of loss/trauma, including parents who may be willing to offer their perspective. A suggestion was made to incorporate an educational piece for the parents on how best to help them with assistance and referrals.</p> <p>A recommendation was made to present the campaign to the Children’s Policy Council and obtain their feedback. Upon hearing any feedback from CPC, it was suggested to then contact Dena Smith from the County’s CAO’s office to assess how involved their office would like to be in the roll-out of this campaign.</p>
6	<p>Review Strategic Plan for Fiscal 2015-2020 (Presenter: Scott McGrath and Matt Kronz, Joelle Greene - Harder+Co)</p> <p>Members reviewed the current Strategic Plan for any recommended changes. Harder+Company Community Research facilitated a discussion specific to Goal 1.1 “Child Health”. Recent changes in the health landscape as a result of implementation of the Affordable Care Act were discussed. A decision was made to not alter the language in Goal 1.1.</p> <p>It was determined that a smaller sub-group would meet and discuss any possible changes to the remainder of the Strategic Plan by May 20. The goal is to present a refreshed plan (to include more graphics) to the Commission at the June Meeting.</p>

**Public
Comment**

None

**Committee
Member
Roundtable**

James Moses reported on “Advocacy Day” hosted by First 5 Association which took place on April 5 at the State Capitol in Sacramento. This was an opportunity to meet with legislators and share about the work and issues impacting young children. Diana Alexander and Mary Jaquish also attended along with Karen Scott. James stated they met with every legislator in the County and shared the work they are doing with QRIS, the Early Head Start child care partnership, and the work happening with Footsteps to Brilliance from a collaborative perspective. The focus was on early learning and some of the legislative bills connected to early learning. Another topic of discussion was the reduction in revenue that First 5’s were experiencing and how it creates a slight shift in the work done related to systems. James reported that 68% of children in California are touched by First 5 in some fashion.

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James also reported on the Child Care Resource Play Day which occurred on April 22nd. About 3000 people attended. The focus was for children to learn group play and give CCRC providers an opportunity to showcase their programs. Each provider set up an activity for children. CCRC helped offset the cost for the smaller private providers. It was a well-attended event with tremendous community support.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Ed Pare and seconded by James Moses to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Next Meeting

Not expecting any further immediate business, the committee will go dark in the summer and reconvene on September 22, 2016.

Attest

Ann M. Calkins, Advisory Committee Secretary
