

Chair
Elliot Weinstein, M.D.

Vice Chair
Dr. Gwen Dowdy-Rodgers

Executive Director
Karen E. Scott



Commissioners

Ted Alejandro
Supervisor Joe Baca, Jr.
Joshua Dugas
Gary Ovitt
Gilbert Ramos

Agenda: Children and Families Commission 3-2026

735 East Carnegie Drive, Suite 150, San Bernardino, California 92408

Meeting date, time, location March 4, 2026
3:30 p.m.
First 5 San Bernardino Commission Conference Room

Pledge of Allegiance Chair or designee will lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Special Presentations Swearing-in of new Commissioner, Janki Patel, Acting Director of Public Health

State of Child Care presented by James Moses, Director of Strategic Engagement and Child Care Resource Center.

Conflict of Interest Disclosure Commission members shall review agenda item contractors, subcontractors, and agents, which may require member abstentions due to conflict of interest and financial interests.

A Commission member with conflicts of interests shall state their conflict under the appropriate item. A Commission member may not participate in or influence the decision on a contract for which their abstention has been recorded.

Report Executive Director’s Report by Karen E. Scott

Consent Item The following consent items are expected to be routine and non-controversial and will be acted upon by the Commission at one time unless any Commissioner directs that an item be removed from the Consent Agenda for discussion.

Item No.	CONSENT
1	Approve Minutes from January 14, 2026, Commission Meeting.

The agenda and supporting documents are available for review during regular business hours at First 5 San Bernardino, 735 East Carnegie Drive, Suite 150, San Bernardino, California 92408.

Interpreters for hearing impaired and Spanish speaking individuals will be made available with forty-eight hours notice. Please call Commission staff (909) 386-7706 to request the service. This location is handicapped accessible.

Agenda: Children and Families Commission 3-2026

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Item No.	INFORMATION
2	Receive information on planned restructuring of the First 5 San Bernardino Advisory Committee. (Presenter: Scott McGrath, Deputy Director 386.7706)

Item No.	DISCUSSION
3	Elect Chair for the First 5 San Bernardino Advisory Committee. (Presenter: Karen E. Scott, Executive Director, 386.7706)

Public Comment Persons wishing to address the Commission will be given up to three minutes and pursuant to Government Code 54954.2(a)(3) "no action or discussion will be undertaken by the Commission on any item NOT posted on the agenda."

Special Presentation *Happy Retirement to Karen Scott*

Commissioner Roundtable Open to comments by the Commissioners

Next Meeting **Wednesday, April 1, 2026**
3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The agenda and supporting documents are available for review during regular business hours at First 5 San Bernardino, 735 East Carnegie Drive, Suite 150, San Bernardino, California 92408.

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Minutes: Children and Families Commission Meeting

**Date, time,
location**

January 14, 2026
3:30 p.m.
First 5 San Bernardino Commission Conference Center, 735 E. Carnegie Drive, Suite 150, San Bernardino, CA 92408

**Pledge of
Allegiance**

Pledge of Allegiance by Chair Weinstein, M.D.

**Special
Presentation**

1,000 Books before Kindergarten, presented by Kristen Stevens, Assistant County Librarian for the San Bernardino County Library.

**Conflict of
Interest
Disclosure**

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Attendees

Commissioners Present

- Chair Elliot Weinstein, M.D.
- Commissioner Ted Alejandre
- Supervisor Baca Jr.
- Commissioner Josh Dugas
- Commissioner Gilbert Ramos

Absent

- Commissioner Gary Ovitt
- Vice Chair Dr. Gwen Dowdy-Rodgers

Legal Counsel

- Dawn Martin, Deputy County Counsel

Staff

- Cindy Faulkner, Assistant Director
- Michael Limon, Supervising Office Assistant

Changes to the agenda None

Executive Director’s Report Ms. Faulkner, Assistant Director provided a report regarding the loss of Rob Reiner and the legacy of his assistance and contributions to First 5 California.

Item No.	CONSENT
1	Approve Minutes from December 3, 2025, Commission Meeting. (Presenter: Traci Homan, Executive Assistant, 386.7706) <u>Roll Call</u> Motion/Second: Supervisor Baca, Jr./Commissioner Dugas Aye: Supervisor Baca, Jr., Commissioner Alejandro, Commissioner Dugas, Commissioner Ramos, and Chair Weinstein, M.D. Absent: Commissioner Gary Ovitt and Vice Chair Gwen Dowdy-Rodgers Without further comment or objection, motion carried by unanimous vote to approve consent items.
2	Approve Amendment A-11 to CFC SB Policy 04-02 Conflict of Interest Code to amend Appendix B. (Presenter: Traci Homan, Executive Assistant, 386-7706) <u>Roll Call</u> Motion/Second: Supervisor Baca, Jr./Commissioner Dugas Aye: Supervisor Baca, Jr., Commissioner Alejandro, Commissioner Dugas, Commissioner Ramos, and Chair Weinstein, M.D. Absent: Commissioner Gary Ovitt and Vice Chair Gwen Dowdy-Rodgers Without further comment or objection, motion carried by unanimous vote to approve consent items.

Item No.	DISCUSSION
3	<p>Elect Chair and Vice Chair for the Children and Families Commission for San Bernardino County. (Presenter: Cindy Faulkner, Assistant Director, 386-7706)</p> <p>Ms. Faulkner asked for nominations from the floor for the position of Commission Chair. Supervisor Baca, Jr., nominated Dr. Weinstein. Dr. Weinstein accepted nomination.</p> <p>Hearing none further, nominations closed for the position of Commission Chair. Without further comment or objection, and with Commissioner Ovitt and Vice Chair Gwen Dowdy-Rodgers absent, commission members unanimously voted in favor of Dr. Weinstein to remain as Commission Chair.</p> <p>Chair Weinstein asked Assistant Director, Cindy Faulkner, that if he would like to nominate Dr. Gwen Dowdy-Rodgers for Vice Chair could she accept although she was not in attendance.</p> <p>Both legal counsel and Ms. Faulkner agreed and stated that Dr. Gwen Dowdy-Rodgers had stated via email that she would like to serve another term as Vice Chair if she was nominated.</p> <p>Supervisor Baca, Jr., nominated Dr. Gwen Dowdy-Rodgers for Vice Chair.</p> <p>Hearing none further, nominations closed for the position of Commission Vice Chair. Without further comment or objection, and with Commissioner Ovitt and Vice Chair Gwen Dowdy-Rodgers absent, commission members unanimously voted in favor of Dr. Gwen Dowdy-Rodgers to remain as Commission Vice Chair.</p>
4	<p>Approve and authorize issuance of a Request for Qualifications for an Auditor to conduct and prepare an annual audit and report of First 5 San Bernardino’s financial statements for Fiscal Years 2026-2030. (Presenter: Samuel Wong, Chief Financial Officer, 386.7706)</p> <p>Mr. Wong presented the Request for Approval and authorization of issuance of Request for Qualifications and stated that staff recommendation is approval as drafted. If approved, RFQ will be posted on January 15 through February 11, 2026, and look to present the selected proposal in June and begin contract work in July.</p> <p>.</p> <p><u>Roll Call</u></p> <p>Motion/Second: Supervisor Baca, Jr./Commissioner Dugas Aye: Supervisor Baca, Jr., Commissioner Dugas, Commissioner Ramos, Commissioner Alejandre, Chair Weinstein, M.D. Absent: Commissioner Ovitt and Vice Chair. Dr. Gwen Dowdy-Rodgers Without further comment or objection, motion carried by unanimous vote to approve Item 4.</p>

Item No.	INFORMATION
5	<p>Receive information from EVALCORP for First 5 San Bernardino’s Local Outcomes Report for 2024-2025. (Presenter: Josh Roche, Statistical Analyst, 386.7706)</p>



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AGENDA ITEM 2
March 4, 2026

Subject	First 5 San Bernardino Advisory Committee Restructure.
Recommendations	Receive information on planned restructuring of the First 5 San Bernardino Advisory Committee. (Presenter: Scott McGrath, Deputy Director 386.7706)
Financial Impact	None
Background Information	<p>Proposition 10 (1998) Section 130145. Mandates that the state commission and each county commission shall establish one or more advisory committees to provide technical and professional expertise and support for any purposes that will be beneficial in accomplishing the purposes of this act. Each advisory committee shall meet and shall make recommendations and reports as deemed necessary or appropriate.</p> <p>Historically, the First 5 San Bernardino Advisory Committee was tasked with reviewing the current strategic plan and making recommendations for changes, if any, for an annual public hearing pursuant to section 130140 C (iii) and D. Additional meetings of the committee were scheduled quarterly.</p> <p>While the task of reviewing the strategic plan was consistent and useful, First 5 leadership wanted to explore how best to use the committee throughout the year for other purposes of advisement. Membership and attendance were inconsistent and meetings were often used to inform the committee about First 5 updates and, unless there was a pressing matter making it useful to do so, rarely about advising leadership and staff about a course of action or recommendations.</p> <p>First 5 leadership enlisted EVALCORP, as the current contracted evaluation consultant to explore the makeup and structure of other county commission advisory committees as well as to request feedback from current committee members about what is working. EVALCORP also asked what could be approved upon or what change and overall recommendations about a more optimal use of the committee. A report was created documenting this feedback.</p> <p>After thoughtful review and much discussion, it was decided that the Advisory Committee would be structured as follows for fiscal year 2026-2027 and going forward:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No more than 21 members will be strategically selected representing various sectors pertaining to children 0-5 and their families. The former open application process to build membership would no longer be used.• Full-group meetings will occur bi-annually for the purpose of strategic plan review and any other issues where input would be beneficial. Full-group meetings will be facilitated by EVALCORP.• Throughout the year, ad-hoc committees may be formed and meet to address specific concerns. These ad-hoc committees would include relevant members

of the larger group and may include guest members from outside the Advisory Committee. Ad-hoc committees would be task-oriented and temporary in nature, dedicated to a specific goal or task.

- Standing sub-committees may be formed and meet more regularly and for an unspecified period of time. Examples of possible subcommittee's:
 - Finance
 - Technical Advisory (data and evaluation)
 - Program development
- The chair of the ad-hoc and subcommittees will be determined as appropriate.

A workflow process has been developed by EVALCORP with activities throughout the remainder of the fiscal year regarding recruitment of members, orientation and the strategic plan review in preparation for public hearing in June.

Pending Commission approval, the by-laws will be amended to reflect the restructuring of the Advisory Committee and will be presented to the Commission.

Review

Sophie Curtis, Commission Counsel

Report on Action as taken	
Action:	
Moved: _____	Second: _____
In Favor:	
Opposed:	
Abstained:	
Comments: _____	
Witnessed:	



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AGENDA ITEM 3
March 4, 2026

Subject	Election of Advisory Committee Chair.
Recommendations	Elect Chair for the First 5 San Bernardino Advisory Committee. (Presenter: Karen E. Scott, Executive Director, 386.7706)
Financial Impact	None
Background Information	<p>Per Section 130145 of the California Children and Families Act of 1998, each County Commission is required to establish at least one Advisory Committee to provide technical and professional expertise and support for any purposes that will be beneficial in accomplishing the purposes of the Act.</p> <p>Per the First 5 San Bernardino Advisory Committee Policy 04-03, the Commission shall designate a Commissioner to serve as the Chair for the Advisory Committee. This officer presides at all meetings and generally oversees the Advisory Committee.</p> <p>In accordance with First 5 San Bernardino Policy 03-01 A3, Commission Rules of Order, the term of all officers shall be "one year, commencing upon the adjournment of the meeting at which they are elected. All officers shall hold office until their successors are duly elected."</p> <p>Upon Commission approval, the election of the Advisory Committee Chair shall be conducted at this time.</p>
Review	Sophie Curtis, Commission Counsel

Report on Action as taken
Action:
Moved: _____ Second: _____
In Favor:
Opposed:
Abstained:
Comments: _____
Witnessed: