



Minutes: Children and Families Commission Meeting

Date, time, location April 5, 2023
3:33 p.m. – 4:38 p.m.
First 5 San Bernardino Commission Conference Center

Pledge of Allegiance Pledge of Allegiance led by Chair Dr. Weinstein

Changes to the Agenda Commission Clerk Traci Homan announced the following change: Agenda Item 2a and 2b are being continued to May's Commission meeting.

Special Presentations *Survey Panel*
Presented by Rebecca Strull and Lucia Cazares, VIVA Social Impact Partners

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.

Executive Director's Report – Debora Dickerson-Sims Debora Dickerson-Sims presented the Executive Director's Report on behalf of Karen Scott, who was unable to attend.

April is National Child Abuse Month where we have the opportunity to recognize and celebrate the Week of the Young Child.

Child abuse is one of the most significant forms of adverse childhood experiences, or ACEs, and it can have long-lasting effects on a child's well-being. Of course, you know that First 5 San Bernardino (F5SB) is committed to working together with our community to bring education and awareness, which are essential in combating ACEs.

By raising awareness, we can empower adults to recognize and report signs of abuse, potentially preventing harm to children and supporting families before abuse occurs or escalates.

Today, F5SB participated in the social media campaign promoting Week of the Young Child on all F5SB channels.

Legislative and Policy Updates

The First 5 Association's Policy Committee met on March 2nd and is scheduled for our April meeting tomorrow. The latest Legislative Bill Tracker document is there before you from which I will be referring to. On March 4, First 5 was asked to vote on positions of support for two budget proposals and three legislative bills recommended.

The two budget proposals were:

- The ECE Coalition Budget Request that is essentially asking for a 25% increase on the current reimbursement rate system, and the allocation of all 20,000 childcare spaces, therefore opposing the delay for the scheduled release by October 2023. (Coalition Letter Enclosed)
- The Family Resource Center budget request for FY 2023-2024, which is asking for a budget allocation of \$75 million, as a one-time ask to support approximately 200 family resource centers throughout the state in the FRC networks through the California Family Resource Association or CFRA. These funds would be administered by the Office of Child Abuse Prevention within CDSS.

While we appreciate the Association wanting to support CFRA's \$75 million budget ask for FRCs, the only way we were comfortable with a "yes" is if we can assure the First 5 County Commissions are recognized as important implementation partners and would be eligible for that funding, should it be included in the budget. Unfortunately, last fiscal year, several funding opportunities released by OCAP excluded F5's as eligible applicants and those opportunities were also included in F5's strategic priorities and investments.

The Policy Committee further asked for support positions on three legislative bills:

- [AB 608](#) (Schiavo) – Medical Comprehensive perinatal services: This bill would require, during the one-year postpregnancy eligibility period, and as part of comprehensive perinatal services under Medi-Cal, the department to cover additional comprehensive perinatal assessments and individualized care plans and to provide additional visits and units of services in an amount, duration, and scope of that at least proportional to those available on July 27, 2021, during pregnancy and the initial 60-day postpregnancy period in effect on that date.
- [AB 679](#) (Wicks) – Family Daycare Meal Reimbursement Rates: This bill would increase the reimbursement rate for meals served in family daycare homes to be 100 percent of the eligible meals served, instead of 75 percent.
- [SB608](#) (Becker) – Child Health and Safety License Plate Program: This bill would increase the fees for the initial issuance and renewal of the "Have a Heart, Be a Star, Help Our Kids" license plates. The bill would continuously appropriate:

50% of the fees collected on or after January 1, 2023 to local childcare and development planning councils for specified purposes, including recruitment and training of new childcare providers;

5% to the State Department of Public Health in support of its injury prevention branch addressing childhood injury prevention

20% to First 5 Commissions that elect to receive this funding which is limited for certain purposes, including administering the California Unintentional Injury Prevention Strategic Plan Project.

Of notable mention are a few other bill proposals that First 5 Commission/Association have taken a “watch” position on:

- AB 51 (Bonta) Universal early care
- AB 555 (Carrillo) (which is being carried by the ECE Coalition) California state preschool programs
- AB 596 (Reyes) Early childhood: childcare and education
- SB 380 (Limon) – companion bill to AB 596 Reyes – Childcare: rate reform
- SB 318 (Ochoa Bogh) – “2-1-1” information and referral network

Today, our partner, Child Care Resource Center (CCRC), forwarded a request for support of SB 635 to our San Bernardino County Governmental and Legislative Affairs department. One of three bills that CCRC is sponsoring is SB 635. This bill would request a California state preschool program and a childcare and development program to, with consent from parents or legal guardians, screen each enrolled child who is 0 to 5 years of age, inclusive, with an Ages and Stages Questionnaire, and to report the information from the screening to the State Department of Education or State Department of Social Services, respectively.

The other two bills sponsored by CCRC are the companion bills that I have already mentioned here today, SB 380 and AB 596. These bills have both short term (immediate rate increase and family fee waivers) and long-term (restructuring the family fee and reimbursement rate processed) goals. (See Support Letter Template)

Attendees

Commissioners

- Ted Alejandre
- Diana Alexander
- Supervisor Joe Baca, Jr.
- Dr. Gwendolyn Dowdy-Rodgers
- Joshua Dugas
- Gary Ovitt
- Elliot Weinstein, M.D.

County Counsel

Sophie Curtis

Staff

- Kim Browder, Business Support Manager
- Debora Dickerson-Sims, Chief Financial Officer
- Marian Fam, Accountant III
- Alexa Gutierrez, Staff Analyst II
- Traci Homan, Executive Assistant
- Wendy Lee, Section Manager, Evaluation and Impact
- Scott McGrath, Deputy Director of Systems and Impact
- Ronnie Robinson, Section Manager, Systems and Communication

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- Ray Salamat, Staff Analyst II
- Peter Tawadros, Staff Analyst II
- Kimberly VandenBosch, Communications Officer
- Erika Willhite, Staff Analyst II
- Peiyong Yang, Accountant III, Section Manager

Item No.	CONSENT
1	<p>Approve Minutes from March 1, 2023 Commission Meeting. (Presenter: Traci L. Homan, Executive Assistant, 252-4252)</p> <p>Motion by Commissioner Dugas and seconded by Commissioner Alexander to approve the Consent Items.</p> <p>Without further comment or objection, and no public comments noted, motion carried by unanimous vote.</p>
2	<p>Approve the following Quality Rating Improvement System contract amendments for implementation of Quality Start San Bernardino for 2020-23:</p> <p>a) Amendment A1 for Contract EC038 with San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools to update contract language related to Federal funding with no change to the contract term or amount; and</p> <p>b) Amendment A1 for Contract EC040 with Child Care Resource Center to update contract language related to Federal funding with no change to the contract term or amount; and</p> <p>c) Amendment A1 for Contract EC039 with University Enterprises Corporation/California State University, San Bernardino to update contract language related to Federal funding with no change to the contract term. (Presenter: Erika Willhite, Staff Analyst II, 252-4262)</p>

Item No.	INFORMATION
3	<p>Approve Amendment A1 for Contract HW060 with the Inland Faculty Specialists dba as the NAEBOR Clinic, effective January 1, 2023, reflecting a name change and reducing the total contract amount by \$182,978 from \$712,864 to \$529,886 for 2022-24, to provide culturally appropriate prenatal and follow-up care for at-risk Black and incarcerated women. (Presenter: Ronnie Robinson, Section Manager, Systems and Communication, 252-4255)</p>
4	<p>Receive information on First 5 San Bernardino's public awareness campaigns promoting children's literacy and oral health. (Presenter: Kimberly VandenBosch, Communications Officer, 252-4283)</p>

Public Comment None

Commissioner Roundtable Commissioners welcomed Diana Alexander back and thanked the First 5 staff for a fantastic job on the Oral Health and Gift a Kid a Book campaigns. Commissioner Baca Jr., also added that he appreciates First 5 helping underserved communities who need

these services. Commissioner Alexander stated that Travis Tramel does such great work and it is a pleasure to partner with him on the dental campaign. Commissioner Dugas let us know that the Department of Public Health offers free dental care for children who are documented or not. Commissioner Dowdy-Rodgers said she attended the Cal State Policy Forum that talked about legislative issues and ways to serve our communities put on by the Child Care Resource Center. Commissioner Ovitt welcomed Kim Browder as the new Business Support Manager with First 5.

Dr. Weinstein thanked everyone for attending.

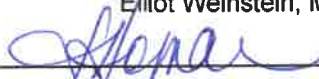
Next Meeting

Wednesday, May 10, 2023
Budget Workshop, 1:00 – 3:15 pm
Commission Meeting, 3:30 – 5:00 pm

Attest



Eliot Weinstein, M.D., Chair



Traci L. Homan, Business Support Manager
