



Minutes: Children and Families Commission Meeting

Date, time, location July 2, 2025
3:31 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 *Child Care Resource Center presented: Cultivating Child, Family and Community well-being – presented by James Moses, Director of Strategic Engagement.*

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.

Attendees

Commissioners Present

- Chair Elliot Weinstein, M.D.
- Commissioner Ted Alejandre
- Supervisor Baca Jr.
- Commissioner Josh Dugas
- Commissioner Gary Ovitt
- Vice Chair, Dr. Gwen Dowdy-Rodgers

Absent

- Commissioner Gilbert Ramos

Legal Counsel

- Dawn Martin, Deputy County Counsel

Staff

- Karen Scott, Executive Director
- Traci Homan, Commission Clerk

Changes to the agenda

None

Executive Director's Report

Ms. Scott's Executive Director's report highlighted key summer activities and broader strategic efforts of First 5 San Bernardino (F5SB) in July 2025. It began with the kick off of the annual Kids Safe Summer campaign in collaboration with Loma Linda University Children's Hospital, emphasizing water safety, sun protections, and travel safety. The report also outlined updates from state-level partners (First 5 California and the First 5 Association), budget developments affecting early childhood services, and current legislative activities.

F5SB is closely tracking statewide indicators and local trends related to prenatal care, child abuse allegations and childcare capacity – all crucial to advancing the agency's strategic priorities of Child Health, Early Learning, and Family Support. Ms. Scott acknowledged F5SB partnerships, especially with Public Health and the Maternal Health Network, and a reminder about the 3rd Quarterly Budget Status Report.

Kids Safe Summer Campaign

Media event launched with Loma Linda University Children's Hospital.

Safety themes: water, sun, and travel.

Promoted Water Watcher wrist tags for designated adult supervision.

Shared ABC's of water safety:

A – Active adult supervision

B – Barriers

C – Classes and CPR

Highlighted dangers of hot cars and importance of hydration, sunscreen, hats, and sunglasses.

Car seat safety demo led by Michelle Parker from Loma Linda Safe Kids Inland Empire.

Strategic Plan & Commission Update

2023 Strategic Plan remains effective through 2028.

One change made to Strategic Plan on page 5. Replaced Commissioner Diana Alexander with Commissioner Gilbert Ramos, Assistant Executive Officer for San Bernardino County.

Partner Updates

First 5 California (2025–2028 Strategic Plan) has been approved.

Advocacy for early learning and family stability.

Focus on ACEs, child development, and service integration.

First 5 Association (2025–2030 Framework):

Policy advancement, systems coordination, leadership development.

Support in research, advocacy, relationships, and strategic communications.

State Budget Impact (2025)

Uncertain impacts on prenatal–age 5 population.

Disappointment: Reduced funding for ACEs Aware.

Positive funding:

\$7.4M for diaper banks.

\$43.8M for SUN Bucks summer food program.

Reduces funding for Child Care Bridge Program by \$30M.

\$70M repurposed for provider rate increases.
 TK and UPK grants extended and/or funded.
 Concerns:
 Potential Medicaid match reduction in federal budget.
 Cuts to SNAP could affect millions.

San Bernardino County Community Indicators

Prenatal Care: 81.5% of mothers received early prenatal care in 2023 (lowest in 10 years).
 Child Abuse/Neglect:
 19% decrease in substantiated allegations (2023–2024).
 17% decrease in foster care entries.
 Child Care Capacity:
 14% increase in licensed family child care spaces (2021–2023).
 13% increase in licensed center-based care.
 Still 29% below 2012 levels.

Public Health & Maternal Health Partnership

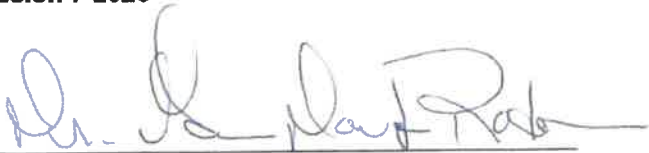
Fetal and Infant Mortality Review (FIMR) now includes maternal interviews.
 Valuable insights being used by Maternal Health Network and F5SB.
 Ms. Scott expressed gratitude to Dr. Sayida Peprah and her staff for their efforts, as well as to Monique Amis and her colleagues.

Lastly, Ms. Scott presented the 3rd Quarterly Budget Status Report, which was not presented last month.

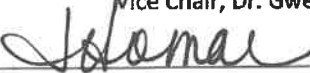
Item No.	CONSENT
1	Approve Minutes from June 4, 2025, Commission Meeting. <u>Roll Call</u> Motion/Second: Supervisor Baca, Jr./Commissioner Dugas Aye: Commissioner Alejandro, Supervisor Baca, Jr., Vice Chair Dr. Gwen Dowdy-Rodgers, Commissioner Dugas, Commissioner Ovitt, and Chair Weinstein, M.D. Absent: Commissioner Ramos Without further comment or objection, motion carried by unanimous vote to approve consent items.
2	Approve Amendment A2 to Contract IC052 with Diversity Uplifts, Inc., to increase the Contract in the amount of \$1,855,559 for a cumulative total not to exceed \$3,686,186 retroactive to July 1, 2025, for Fiscal Years 2025–2028 to continue serving as the backbone agency for the Maternal Health Network. (Presenter: Erin Meier, Administrative Supervisor I, 386-7706) <u>Roll Call</u> Motion/Second: Supervisor Baca, Jr./Commissioner Dugas Aye: Commissioner Alejandro, Supervisor Baca, Jr., Vice Chair Dr. Gwen Dowdy-Rodgers, Commissioner Dugas, Commissioner Ovitt, Chair Weinstein, M.D. Absent: Commissioner Ramos Without further comment or objection, motion carried by unanimous vote to approve consent items.

<p>3</p>	<p>Approve Amendment A1 for Contract IC051 with Inland Empire Community Collaborative-Children’s Cabinet for \$186,835 retroactive to July 1, 2025, for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 for a cumulative total of \$484,303 to continue towards collective impact through policy and advocacy to benefit children and families. (Presenter: Erin Meier, Administrative Supervisor I, 386-7706)</p> <p><u>Roll Call</u> Motion/Second: Supervisor Baca, Jr./Commissioner Dugas Aye: Commissioner Alejandre, Supervisor Baca, Jr., Vice Chair Dr. Gwen Dowdy-Rodgers, Commissioner Dugas, Commissioner Ovitt, Chair Weinstein, M.D. Absent: Commissioner Ramos Without further comment or objection, motion carried by unanimous vote to approve consent items.</p>
<p>4</p>	<p>Approve Amendment 1 to Contract SI041 with Loma Linda University Children’s Hospital, retroactive to July 1, 2025, for \$573,617 for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 for a total not to exceed amount of \$1,702,379. (Presenter: Erin Meier, Administrative Supervisor I, 386-7706)</p> <p><u>Roll Call</u> Motion/Second: Supervisor Baca, Jr./Commissioner Dugas Aye: Commissioner Alejandre, Supervisor Baca, Jr., Vice Chair Dr. Gwen Dowdy-Rodgers, Commissioner Dugas, Commissioner Ovitt, Chair Weinstein, M.D. Absent: Commissioner Ramos Without further comment or objection, motion carried by unanimous vote to approve consent items.</p>
<p>5</p>	<p>Approve the following contracts for implementation of Quality Counts California – Quality Start San Bernardino for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 effective on July 1, 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools for Contract EC052 for \$42,279 for administrative services; and B. University Enterprises Corporation/California State University, San Bernardino, for Contract EC050 for \$83,657 to enhance higher education opportunities in early care and education and conduct site assessment; and C. Child Care Resource Center for Contract EC048 for \$1,065,838 for outreach and enrollment, coordination of quality improvement services, program evaluation and professional development. <p>(Presenter: Erin Meier, Administrative Supervisor I, 386-7706)</p> <p><u>Roll Call</u> Motion/Second: Supervisor Baca, Jr./Commissioner Dugas Aye: Commissioner Alejandre, Supervisor Baca, Jr., Vice Chair Dr. Gwen Dowdy-Rodgers, Commissioner Dugas, Commissioner Ovitt, Chair Weinstein, M.D. Abstain: Commissioner Alejandre and Vice Chair, Dr. Gwen Dowdy-Rodgers abstained from 5A. Absent: Commissioner Ramos Without further comment or objection, motion carried by unanimous vote to approve consent items.</p>

Attest



Vice Chair, Dr. Gwen Dowdy-Rodgers



Traci L. Homan, Commission Clerk
