

First 5 Commission of San Diego County

June 4, 2012

Emerging Critical Needs Funding Request

Request

The request before the Commission is to approve Emerging Critical Needs funding for five programs: Mi Escuelita; San Diego Adolescent Pregnancy & Parenting Program; Black Infant Health; Developmental Screening & Enhancement Program; and, Five and Fit.

Background

Emerging Critical Needs Funding Summary. The Emerging Critical Needs Policy (F5C-022) was approved by the Commission on January 20, 2010 (Item 3) and a specific line item designated in the annual budget in FY 2010-11 (May 3, 2012 [Item 1]). The intent of the Emerging Critical Needs policy is to fund *“projects that address the most critical gaps in the safety net for young children and families.”* This funding supports the Commission’s Strategic Plan to provide funding for a *“targeted response to critical needs emerging from state and local economic conditions.”* The policy allows emerging critical needs funding to an organization for up to three years. In April, 2012 (Item 2), the Commission approved revisions to the policy allowing: 1) re-application and funding for up to three years, and 2) incorporating strategies to support *Live Well, San Diego!*. The policy is provided as Attachment 1. Additionally, First 5 San Diego (F5SD) seeks opportunities to support programs where our funding can be leveraged or matched, therefore, maximizing our investment.

Recommended Programs for Emerging Critical Needs Funding:

Mi Escuelita

- Program Description: Mi Escuelita is a therapeutic preschool program for children ages 3-5 who have been exposed to domestic violence, abuse and/or homelessness. The school provides free bilingual services for children and their families including developmental screenings, parenting classes, counseling, and educational activities in a safe healthy environment.
- Request and Justification: The request for funding includes a \$284,450 increase per year from \$308,430 to \$592,880, and increases the program capacity from 45 to 72 children as the need for services increases in response to the economic crisis and funding reductions. The increased need is validated by an expanded waiting list for program services that averaged 99 children for FY 2011-12 as a result of a 35% increase in domestic violence services over the last five years. The reapplication was reviewed by an independent committee (in accordance with the evaluation criteria provided in the Emerging Critical Needs policy), who determined that this contractor is meeting their contract requirements and recommends continued funding.
- Leveraging Opportunities: The organization receives funding from various profit and non-profit organizations, all of which provide some matching funds for First 5 funds.
- Project Targets: A minimum of 72 young children will be served each year.
- Link to the Strategic Plan: The services support four Strategic Plan Objectives.
 - Decrease the percentage of children entering kindergarten with undetected and/or untreated developmental, social emotional or behavioral delays or problems.
 - Increase the number of households with children ages 0-5 that regularly engage in age-appropriate parent-child activities that promote early learning.
 - Increase the use of positive parenting practices to promote the healthy social emotional development of children 0-5.

- Increase parents' and caregivers' access to needed services for their children.
- Link to *Live Well, San Diego!* The program provides access to mental health counseling and referrals; reinforces protective factors to help reduce risk with domestic violence; and promotes thriving families by allowing access to wraparound services all of which support *Live Well, San Diego!*.
- Commission History:
 - September 12, 2011 (Item 2), the Commission approved a six-month contract extension (1/1/12 – 6/30/12) for up to \$154,215 to align the contract end date with the end of the 2011 – 12 fiscal year.
 - December 16, 2008 (Item 2), the Commission approved funding of up to \$878,400 for a 2.5 year contract.

San Diego Adolescent Pregnancy & Parenting Program (SANDAPP)

- Program Description: SANDAPP provides home-based case management, counseling and support services to pregnant and parenting youth throughout the county to improve maternal and child health, and help them stay and graduate from high school.
- Request and Justification: State funding cuts continue: In FY 2009-10 state funding for the Adolescent Family Life Program was reduced by \$729,116; in FY 2011-12 State Cal-Learn funds were reduced by \$834,416; in the FY 2012-13 Governor's budget proposal, Cal-Learn funding is eliminated, and funding from the San Diego Unified School District is being reduced by \$411,651. Additional funding of \$145,042 from \$720,000 to \$865,042 per year has been requested to cover the anticipated reductions in order to continue services. The requested funding would maintain current service levels of at least 530. The reapplication was reviewed by an independent committee (in accordance with the evaluation criteria provided in the Emerging Critical Needs policy). It was determined that this contractor is meeting their contract requirements and recommends continued funding at the requested level to maintain services.
- Leveraging Opportunities: First 5 funding allowed SANDAPP to draw down \$49,466 in Title XIX Federal funds in FY 2010-11. For FY 2011-12 the funds could be \$65,000, and as much as \$78,700 per year for FYs 2012-13, 2013-14, and 2014-15.
- Project Targets: The program will serve a minimum of 530 pregnant/parenting youth annually.
- Link to the Strategic Plan: The services support two Strategic Plan Objectives.
 - Decrease the percentage of children entering kindergarten with undetected and/or untreated developmental, social emotional or behavioral delays or problems.
 - Increase the use of positive parenting practices to promote the healthy social emotional development of children 0-5.
- Link to *Live Well, San Diego!* SANDAPP has been supporting the mission and effort of *Live Well, San Diego!* by participating in community forums and participating on the advisory board for the Central region. The services support all tenets of the initiative---building better health, living safely, and thriving families.
- Commission History:
 - November 1, 2010 (Item 4) and August 9, 2010 (Item 5), the Commission approved an additional twenty-four months of funding for up to \$1,440,000.
 - September 11, 2009 (Item 6), the Commission approved one-year of funding of up to \$720,000.

Black Infant Health (BIH)

- Program Description: BIH, a statewide program, provides critical services to African-American pregnant and parenting women who are at-risk for poor birth outcomes. Interventions such as prenatal outreach and follow-up, case management, social support and empowerment and health behavior modification are provided countywide with the primary target areas of Central, East, and South Regions.
- Request and Justification: The need for increased services is supported by national and county data. State General Funds (totaling \$75,484) were eliminated in FY 2009-10 and have not been restored. Additionally, in FY 2011-12 BIH faced another state funding reduction of \$10,000. The requested funding of \$350,000 per year includes an increase of \$136,710 to expand services into the North Region. The reapplication was reviewed by an independent committee (in accordance with the evaluation criteria provided in the Emerging Critical Needs policy). It was determined that this contractor is meeting their contract requirements and the committee recommends continued funding. Services will be provided countywide with the primary target areas of Central, East, North, and South Regions.
- Leveraging Opportunities: First 5 funding will allow the County BIH program to leverage Federal Title XIX funds at approximately a 1:1 match. Continuation of program services will also allow the project to optimize additional resources through collaborative efforts across the county.
- Project Targets: The contractor proposes to serve a minimum of 170 women countywide for FY 2012-13.
- Link to the Strategic Plan: The services support three Strategic Plan Objectives.
 - Decrease the percentage of women who smoke during pregnancy.
 - Increase parents and caregivers access to needed services for their children.
 - Increase the Community's capacity to identify, treat, and support the needs of children and pregnant women.
- Link to Live Well, San Diego! Services are in alignment with *Live Well, San Diego!* because the BIH program goals are to (1) promote healthy behaviors to support health, wellness and relations; (2) connect women with medical, social, economic and mental health services; (3) enhance bonding and parenting skills and (4) empower women.
- Commission History:
 - August 9, 2010 (Item 5), the Commission approved two additional years of funding for up to \$406,580.
 - September 11, 2009 (Item 6), the Commission approved one-year of funding for up to \$203,290.

Developmental Screening & Enhancement Program (DSEP)

- Program Description: The objective of this program is to maximize the social emotional development and placement stability of young children in the CWS system who are residing at Polinsky Children's Center (PCC) or placed with a relative caregiver/ foster parent. The program has two key components: (1) Expanded training and support for 23 full-time PCC staff caring for young children; and (2) Assessment, case management, care coordination and support for these young children and their caregivers. In years past, the assessment services have been provided both by First 5 Healthy Development Services and CWS-DSEP, but now the services will be combined under one contract for improved coordination and greater efficiency to ensure that all children (0-5) receive an assessment, an Individualized Care Plan and needed services to support placement stability and developmental progress.

- Request and Justification: The request is to continue funding at the same level* for an additional three years as both State General Purpose and Realignment Revenues continue to be below budgeted levels and the needs of children increase. Funding is no longer available for many critical CWS related services. This contract is \$400,000 more than the previous year due to the portion of DSEP services that was funded in the Healthy Development Services contract being moved to this contract; total funding remains at \$3.4 million per year. The reapplication was reviewed by an independent committee (in accordance with the evaluation criteria provided in the Emerging Critical Needs policy), who determined that this contractor is meeting their contract requirements and recommends continued funding.

* Note that \$400,000 per year is being reallocated from First 5 Healthy Development Services and added to this contract.
- Leveraging Opportunities: Matched resources of over \$1.9 million were identified for the 3-year period.
- Project Targets: It is anticipated that more than 1,000 young children and 750 caregivers will receive services annually.
- Link to the Strategic Plan: The services support five Strategic Plan Objectives.
 - Decrease the percentage of children entering kindergarten with undetected and/or untreated developmental, social emotional or behavioral delays or problems.
 - Increase the percentage of children ages 3 to 5 enrolled in quality early care and education programs.
 - Increase the number of households with children ages 0-5 that regularly engage in age-appropriate parent-child activities that promote early learning.
 - Increase the use of positive parenting practices to promote the healthy social emotional development of children 0-5.
 - Increase parents' and caregivers' access to needed services for their children.
- Link to Live Well, San Diego! These services support *Live Well, San Diego!* as they will provide the right care at the right time which is critical for young children in the CWS system to reduce the severity of the developmental/behavioral challenges.
- Commission History:
 - June 13, 2011 (Item 7), the Commission approved a three-month contract extension (4/1/12 – 6/30/12) for up to \$668,717 to the end of the 2011 - 12 fiscal year.
 - December 16, 2008 (Item 11), the Commission approved funding for up to \$9 million for a 2.5 year contract.

Five and Fit

- Program Description: The Five and Fit Model developed by Temple University utilizes an intergenerational approach to addressing the issue of early childhood obesity prevention. It intentionally brings together older community residents, Early Childhood Education staff, parents and preschool aged children (2-5) to learn about effective strategies relating to healthy eating, physical activity, as well as other behaviors associated with early childhood obesity prevention.
- Request and Justification: AIS is seeking funding in the amount of \$87,225 (approx \$29,075 per year) over a three year period commencing July 1, 2012. This will fund a pilot site at a child care center in a region other than East. AIS will fund a second pilot site at the Grossmont Cuyamaca Child Care Center. Studies have shown that 60% of the nation's pre-school age children spend most of their day in a childcare setting yet few interventions are available that specifically target very young children.

- Leveraging Opportunities: Two child care centers will pilot the Five and Fit model, one funded fully by AIS, and one through First 5.
- Project Targets: The goal is to serve 75 preschool aged children (2-5) every year beginning July 1, 2012 for a total number of 225 children during the three year period.
- Link to the Strategic Plan: The services support three Strategic Plan Objectives.
 - Increase the number of households with children ages 0 through 5 that regularly engage in age-appropriate parent-child activities that promote early learning.
 - Increase the use of positive parenting practices to promote the healthy social emotional development of children 0-5.
 - Increase the community's capacity to identify, treat and support the needs of young children.
- Link to *Live Well, San Diego!* This intergenerational program will keep older adults engaged in serving their communities, and educate children and their families about good nutrition and ways in which families and the preschool staff can support children in making good choices about healthy foods. A focus will also be placed on encouraging regular physical activity, for both the children and their families.
- Commission History: This item has not gone before the Commission. The request is to fund a pilot project for three years due to the countywide emphasis on obesity prevention and *Live Well, San Diego!*

Staff Recommendations

- 1) Find that the proposed Emerging Critical Needs allocation to support the programs indicated below is consistent with the Commission's Strategic Plan, furthers the support and improvement of early childhood development within the County and provides a public benefit.
- 2) Receive and approve recommendations from the Independent Review Committee and approve funding to be allocated from the Emerging Critical Needs budget line of each fiscal year's budget, per the chart below.

Contract #	Contractor	Three Year Total	Fiscal Year 2012-13	Fiscal Year 2013-14	Fiscal Year 2014-15
A) "Mi Escuelita" Therapeutic Preschool					
528231	South Bay Community Services	\$1,868,130	\$592,880	\$622,090	\$653,160
B) San Diego Adolescent Pregnancy & Parenting Program (SANDAPP)					
531731	San Diego Unified School District	\$2,595,126	\$865,042	\$865,042	\$865,042
C) Black Infant Health					
531745	HHSA Public Health Services	\$1,050,000	\$350,000	\$350,000	\$350,000
D) Developmental Screening and Enhancement Program (DSEP)					
528916	HHSA Child Welfare Services	\$10,200,000	\$3,400,000	\$3,400,000	\$3,400,000

E) Five and Fit

TBD	HHSA Aging and Independent Services	\$87,225	\$47,825	\$19,700	\$19,700
	Total	\$15,800,481	\$5,255,747	\$5,256,832	\$5,287,902

- 3) Authorize the Executive Director or her designee to negotiate a project length budget and execute a contract with each contractor approved in recommendations number 2 above.

Fiscal Impact:

A total of \$15,800,481 will be authorized from the Emerging Critical Needs budget line over the next three fiscal years: FY 2012 – 13 for \$5,255,747, FY 2013 – 14 for \$5,256,832, and FY 2014 – 15 for \$5,287,902.