

First 5 Commission of San Diego

June 13, 2011

Staff Report

Updates Since Last Report

Health

- Fluoridation: Other Water Districts:
 - Per the Commission's request, letters were sent to the remaining five non-optimally fluoridating water districts on March 14, 2011 inquiring about interest in receiving First 5 funds for fluoridation. To date Olivenhain water district has acknowledged interest on April 1st and Poway water district acknowledged their interest May 20th. Oceanside, San Dieguito and Sweetwater water districts have all declined.

Learning

- Future Quality Preschool Initiative
 - On May 11, 2011 a Quality Preschool Initiative Community Forum was conducted; information was shared about national/state quality preschool best practices and input was received from stakeholders for use in developing the Request for Proposals (RFP) for this initiative. Additionally, on May 23, 2011 TPAC also received best practice information and a discussion regarding the key components of a quality preschool, sustainability and using technology occurred also to assist in the development of the RFP. A presentation is being provided to the Commission today to receive information on the status of the development of the RFP and provide any additional direction from the Commission regarding the design of the initiative.
 - At the January 2011 First 5 California meeting, First 5 California authorized \$19 million to continue funding the Power of Preschool (POP) Bridge Project for FY 2011-12 in eight participating counties, which includes San Diego. San Diego's continued participation in the First 5 California PoP match program allows us to draw down approximately 20% of the funds that have been allocated to our Preschool for All /POP Demonstration Project, which is in alignment with First 5 California PoP program requirements. Revised budget documents were sent to First 5 California for their review and approval on May 27, 2011. In FY 2012-13 San Diego anticipates drawing down approximately \$2.6 million dollars in match funds.

Community

- 211 San Diego.
 - For the current fiscal year through April 30, 2011, 211 had answered a total of 186,174 calls on the general 211 line, and have provided information and referral services to 33,073 cases related to children ages 0 – 5.
 - Average call wait times and abandonment rates continue to be lower than the rates for last fiscal year for both the general line and the Warm Line, and Warm Line performance pay points are being met each month.

- Parent and Public Education
 - The current media campaign focused on Oral Health is scheduled to run through June 26, 2011. English and Spanish language television and radio PSA's, transit shelter and bus advertisements and shopping mall displays are encouraging parents to get oral health checkups for their young children and they inform them of the services available through the Commission's Oral Health Initiative (OHI). Warm line referrals have more than doubled having increased from an average of 135 per month, to an average of 350 since the start of the campaign in late February.
 - First 5 San Diego staff joined with the First 5 California "Hands on Health Express" exhibit at the Solana Beach "Fiesta del Soll" on Saturday, June 4, 2011 and June 5, 2011. First 5 San Diego staff distributed Healthy Development Pocket Guides, information about Healthy Development Services, Oral Health and other Commission-funded services.
 - On June 12, 2011 First 5 San Diego is scheduled to participate as a co-sponsor of the Child Care Provider Appreciation Day at PETCO Park, along with YMCA Childcare Resource Service and the San Diego County Childcare and Development Planning Council.

Administration

- Finance Committee. At its May meeting the Committee reviewed the Balance Sheet as of April 30, 2011. The Committee also reviewed the FY 2011-12 Operating Budget, 5-Year Program Allocation Plan, and 10-Year Financial Spending Plan as revised for the Commission's approval of Scenario C and approved the financial documents to come forward to the Commission.
- Fiscal Year End. Fiscal staff has been participating in year-end workshops offered by the Auditor & Controller to prepare for the closing of FY 2010-11.
- Medi-Cal Administrative Activities. Fiscal staff is working on submitting the Medi-Cal Administrative Activities (MAA) invoice for the last two quarters of FY 2009 – 10 to the State for reimbursement of authorized expenses.
- Evaluation
 - The contractors for all major initiatives and projects have received training on end of year procedures to meet requirements for clean, accurate, and timely data submission. Changes to the evaluation frameworks and data fields have been identified and will be programmed into the Commissions data system (CMEDS) by July 1. Targets will be finalized during the contract negotiations process and then entered into CMEDS.
 - SCALAR, (The Southern California Alliance for Learning and Results) is an evaluation consortium composed of the eight First 5 commissions in Southern California. SCALAR has identified a work plan for FY 11-12 that includes technical support for commissions implementing place based strategies, developing common practices that will allow for regional reporting of developmental screening efforts and examining opportunities of using regional GIS mapping to display the scope of First 5 projects in Southern California.

Background on First 5 Commission Current Projects

- 211 San Diego. 211 San Diego is a key resource for parents of young children, assisting them in connecting with First 5 San Diego programs and locating other community resources. In addition to general 211 calls, the First 5 San Diego Warm Line, 1-888-5-FIRST5, is answered by 211 information and referral specialists with specialized training on First 5 services.
- CWS Early Childhood Services Project. This program funds 44 FTE CWS Social Worker staff who are receiving specialized training and support to better meet the needs of foster children in San Diego County age birth through 5 years. This project is restructuring business processes and will assist in meeting state and federal mandates that address permanency and stability for children in foster care. First 5 funding provides the necessary match to draw down federal Title IV-E dollars.
- CWS Foster Care DSEP Project. The goal of this program is to enhance existing services for young children at Polinsky Children's Center (PCC). The program provides expanded training and support for 25 full-time PCC staff that care for young children, follow-up developmental assessments and care coordination services for children who have been released from PCC via the expansion of the Developmental Screening & Enhancement Program (DSEP), and expanded case management services for young children who bypass PCC and are directly placed with foster/relative caregivers.
- Fluoridation. The Commission has partnered with The California Endowment to support water fluoridation in sub-optimally fluoridated local water districts. The current project is with the City of San Diego (City).
- Healthcare Access (HCA). HCA provides outreach and application enrollment assistance for public health insurance, followed by case management to support retention of insurance and appropriate utilization of health services. The goal is to meet American Academy of Pediatrics and American Academy of Pediatric Dentists guidelines for well child and dental exams and reduce inappropriate use of emergency departments.
- Horn of Africa Families Together Program. This program serves the East African families, providing case management services for pregnant women and families with young children to promote and support parent-child interaction and bonding, nutrition, health care and overall family well-being.
- KidSTART. This program is a multi-agency project to coordinate, simplify and improve the county system of developmental services for all children. Child Welfare Services, First 5 and Children's Mental Health have come together to launch a KidSTART Center pilot project targeting the foster child population. This innovative project will leverage First 5 funds with Medi-Cal funds through Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT).
- Kit for New Parents (Kit). The Kit is a free (\$75.00 value) comprehensive resource from First 5 California for new and expecting parents emphasizing the importance of a child's early years. The contractor partners with more than 600 organizations to enhance the delivery of the Kit countywide. The Kit is available in English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Cantonese, Korean and Mandarin. A total of 376,867 Kits have been distributed January 2002 through April 2011.
- Mi Escuelita. The program provides a therapeutic preschool experience for young children in the South Bay who have been exposed to domestic violence and abuse.
- Oral Health Initiative (OHI). OHI provides oral health services, care coordination and preventative education to children ages 1-5 and pregnant women with the objective of improving oral health, promoting positive oral health practices and increasing provider capacity. This year, OHI is

increasing access to dental care through its expanded treatment funds and care coordination capacity for young children and pregnant women.

- Parent and Public Education. Targeted parent and community education campaigns that connect children to needed services and promote practices that strengthen families and that improve children's health and development, reducing the need for direct services.
- Preschool for All (PFA) Demonstration Project. The goal of the Preschool for All (PFA) Demonstration Project is to provide high quality preschool services, completely tuition free regardless of family income, in both existing and in new public and private center-based and home-based early childhood programs. First 5 CA provides an approximate 20% match for these services.
- Preschool Learning Foundations Project. This program provides Early Care Education Learning Foundations training (developed by the California Department of Education [CDE] and provided by CDE to all state-funded preschool teachers only) to both private center-based and Family Child Care providers who would not otherwise receive professional development opportunities through the CDE. This training provides specific program guidelines and principles that offer early childhood educators a clear understanding of what children should know before they enter kindergarten.
- San Diego Adolescent Pregnancy and Parenting Program (SANDAPP). This program's goals are to improve health outcomes for pregnant and parenting adolescents and their children; increase the rate of high school graduation; enhance parenting skills; prevent child abuse, neglect and family violence; and promote youth development and self-sufficiency. Services include case management, counseling / therapy, parent-child interaction and attunement therapies, and Shaken Baby Syndrome prevention through the Period of PURPLE Crying Program.
- San Diego County Childhood Obesity Initiative This initiative is a public/private partnership whose mission is to reduce and prevent childhood obesity in San Diego County by creating healthy environments for all children and families through advocacy, education, policy development and environmental change. Since April 2006 the Commission has committed \$540,000 to support this initiative through March 2012.
- School Readiness (SR). The objective of this statewide effort is to focus on strategies that address the "whole child" and facilitate quality approaches to child development, improve family functioning, improve children's health and improve systems of care to ensure that young children enter kindergarten ready to learn. Four school districts in San Diego County that serve low-income, low API communities are participating in the last year of the First 5 California supported program. First 5 California funds a 50% match for these services.
- Special Needs Project (SNP). This program provides access to early developmental screenings for children in low-income Chula Vista communities and intensive case management and support services for children who have been identified as "at risk" through a comprehensive health and developmental screening process.