

First 5 Commission of San Diego

January 23, 2012
Staff Report

Updates Since Last Report

Health

- Fluoridation:
Preliminary contract negotiations with the Sweetwater Authority were held on December 6, 2011. A draft contract is being reviewed by Authority staff and counsel and will be sent to First 5 staff for their review. An updated technical study of fluoridation requirements for the Olivenhain water treatment plant was conducted by Brady and Associates. The study has identified structural design changes that add to the original 2008 design study. The Commission's contracted fluoridation consultant is pursuing further negotiations with the Olivenhain water district staff.
- National Children's Study
Active recruitment into the National Children's Study has ended (3 months early) and current enrollment is only to participants calling the center (passive recruitment). Recruitment was successful with the demographics of local participants closely matching the San Diego population. The focus is now on retaining participants and community partners.

Learning

- First 5 San Diego Quality Preschool Initiative (QPI) Request for Proposals (RFP):
The RFP for the First 5 San Diego Quality Preschool Initiative (# 4607) was released on October 17, 2011, the due date for proposals was December 1, 2011 and the review of proposals is being conducted. The target date for this new contract is July 1, 2012 so services may be implemented in the fall of 2012.
- California's Race to the Top Early Learning Challenge Grant:
The California Department of Education (CDE) submitted an application in November 2011 for the federal Race to the Top – Early Learning Challenge Grant (RTT-ELC). First 5 San Diego participated in the application process as part of a state-wide Early Learning Leadership Consortia, and documented how the First 5 San Diego Preschool for All Demonstration Project and the First 5 San Diego Quality Preschool Initiative are leading the way in implementing a county-wide integrated system of high quality Early Childhood Education (ECE) programs. In December 2011, California was awarded \$52.6 million in federal funding over a four-year period to improve the quality of early learning programs. The next step will be to assist the CDE in developing a detailed Action Plan and Budget for the project.
- St. Vincent de Paul – Child Development Center Capital Project:
On December 8, 2011 the ribbon cutting ceremony was held for the opening of St. Vincent de Paul's 15th & Commercial development, which includes a child development center for homeless children, transitional housing and permanent housing for adults. First 5 San Diego provided \$6.6 million, as a part of its capital projects, to fund the child development center which occupies three of this twelve story multi-functional building and addresses the needs of homeless children, families and adults in San Diego. This ceremony marks the near completion of the forty-seventh of forty-eight capital projects funded by First 5 San Diego.

Community

- Parent and Public Education
 - Speaking of Women's Health Conference

First 5 San Diego was a co-sponsor for the Speaking of Women's Health Conference hosted by the Sharp HealthCare Foundation held on November 19, 2011 at the Sheraton San Diego Hotel and Marina. The purpose of the conference was to empower women to take care of themselves and their families. Keynote speakers and breakout sessions focused on educating the whole woman to make informed decisions about health, well-being and personal safety – from cancer and diabetes, to nutrition, stress management, and positive parenting.

Administration

- Finance Committee

The Committee will meet on January 17, 2012. They will review the Balance Sheet and Statement of Revenue and Expenditures including the 2nd Quarter Budget Projection for the quarter ending December 31, 2011.
- Evaluation

The draft of the FY 2010-11 Annual Evaluation Report is being presented today to the Commission. Once the Commission accepts the report, it will be posted on the Commission's website.

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.
- The Black Infant Health (BIH) Program. Leveraged funding with California Department of Public Health this program developed six (6) practice interventions (prenatal care outreach and follow-up; case management; health behavior modification; social support and empowerment; prevention; and role of men) to improve the birth outcomes of African-American infants. The program is administered under the Maternal, Child and Families Health Services (MCFHS) Branch, Public Health Services.
- California School Aged Families Education (Cal-SAFE). The Cal-SAFE Program offers a comprehensive, integrated, community-linked, school-based program that improves the educational experiences for expectant and parenting students. The program's goal is to increase the availability of support services necessary for enrolled expectant/parenting students to improve academic achievement and parenting skills and to provide a quality child care/development program for their children.
- Capital Projects. In 2004 First 5 San Diego invested approximately \$60 million for new construction, renovation and/or equipment to support programs for children 0-5 and their families. Forty-eight programs received funding and as of December 2011, forty-seven projects have been completed.
- 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 City of San Diego completed its capital phase and is receiving two years of operation and maintenance funding for fluoridation. The Commission is supporting water fluoridation in two additional water districts.
- 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.
- Healthy Development Services (HDS). HDS is an array of services for early identification and treatment for children with mild to moderate developmental delays. HDS also promotes positive family practices to reduce the need for more complex services. Activities include: speech and language, developmental and behavioral services.

- 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. This project will end on January 31, 2012.
- 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 400,320 Kits have been distributed January 2002 through December 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 June of 2012.