

First 5 Commission of San Diego

February 9, 2023

Staff Report

Updates Since Last Report

Health

- **Healthy Development Services (HDS) & KidSTART Center**
 - With increased funding over the next three fiscal years (FY22/23 - FY24/25), HDS and KidSTART Center will work to improve the system of care services by building capacity in hiring and maintaining professional level staff that have the expertise in working with young children as well as consider inflation related operational costs.
- **Healthy Development Services (HDS) Countywide Coordinator: American Academy of Pediatrics – Chapter 3 (AAP)**
 - AAP is developing a plan to implement the restored funding approved by the Commission in November 2022 in part to coordinate HDS system-wide training and provide reflective practice to HDS providers. Each of these activities is designed not only to strengthen provider knowledge but to enhance provider well-being and promote staff retention.

Learning

- **Workforce Development Pilot**
 - Learn Well Professional Advancement Cohorts for the SD-QPI Workforce: The SD-QPI and Learn Well Initiative continue to bring new community college partners on board to offer continuing education for childcare providers at no cost to them. As of 1/6/2023; Grossmont, Grossmont-Cuyamaca, Mesa College and Southwestern Colleges are now partners in this pilot. There are currently 292 applications. The program has so much interest that Mesa College and Southwestern College had to pause new applications for the time being. SDSU has also shown interest in joining the program for the upcoming semester in the Spring 2023 but has not committed as of now. A follow up meeting with SDSU (4 year Bachelor's program) will take place at the end of January 2023.

Family

- **First 5 First Steps (F5FS) Home Visiting Initiative**
 - The Cal-Learn contract was transferred back to HHSA Self Sufficiency Services. This is a contract that First5First Steps contractor led for two years. The Cal-Learn program contractors have completely transitioned their caseloads back to HHSA SSS staff. Contractors are currently performing closeout checklists to ensure all required documents and materials are with the new County of San Diego team who will be administering the program going forward. All closeout documents and final invoices are due January 31, 2023.

Community

- **Community Outreach and Engagement Events**

- **Holiday Food Drive with the Jacobs and Cushman Foodbank** (November – December 2022)
First 5 San Diego partnered with the Jacobs & Cushman San Diego Food Bank as a sponsor for the 2022 Holiday Food Drive. This is the tenth year that First 5 San Diego has participated in this collaboration to provide food for hundreds of thousands of the most vulnerable people in San Diego County, including chronically hungry school children living in poverty.

First 5 San Diego is proud to have sponsored or participated in the following **5** community outreach events:

- December 2 & 3, 2022 - City of San Diego Office of Child and Youth Success – December Nights (Sponsored)
- December 7, 2022 – County of San Diego HHSA – Live Well Advance Conference (Sponsored)
- January 1, 2023 - Quality Children's Services - Children's Cove Child Development Center (**Participated**)
- January 21, 2023 – Assistance League Greater San Diego – Books and Sneakers for Military Pre-schoolers (Sponsored)
- January 23 – 26, 2023 - Chadwick Center/Rady Children's Hospital - 38th Annual San Diego International Conference on Child, and Family Maltreatment (Sponsored)

Administration

- **Data and Evaluation**

- Multi Facet Authentication (MFA) is being rolled out for all database users for enhanced security of client data.

- **Finance Committee**

- The Finance Committee met on January 19, 2023 at which time the committee reviewed and approved the 2nd quarter expenditure projections and Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2022.

- **First 5 Advocacy & Networking / Administrative Updates / Professional Development**

- ED Arguilez, provided the welcome at the First 5 Association Summit held in San Diego after 3 years of hosting this even virtually. This annual conference is focused on bringing all 58 County Commissions together to discuss
- ED Arguilez has submitted the statement of work for each of the Childcare ARPA funded efforts. She is working with DPC to ensure the approval process is moving along with an anticipated date of July 2023 for contract finalizations.
- ED Arguilez, continues to work in collaboration with Kimberly Giardina, Director of CWS and the consulting team on the formation of the new Child and Family Well -being Department and the preparation for the Family First Prevention Service Act (FFPSA) launch in 2025.
- ED Arguilez along with the F5SD leads held the final COVID early care and education / Child care sector telebriefing on January 10, 2023. A huge appreciation to the support staff from PHS, Epidemiology team, CHO, Dr. Kelly Motadel, CCS Medical Director, Dr. Porchia Rich, Community Care Licensing regional managers, Kim Hall and Jose Carrasco and the YMCA CRS for their ongoing support the past 3 years.
- Executive Director Arguilez continues to represent First 5 San Diego in the following community stakeholder engagement efforts:

- Child and Family Strengthening Advisory Board
- SDSU College of Education Dean Advisory Board
- Children's First Collective San Diego (formerly San Diego ECE Advocacy Coalition)
- First 5 Association Public Policy Committee Chair
- Catalyst San Diego (formerly San Diego Grantmakers) Early Education Funders Group
- YMCA Partners in Prevention (PiP) Leadership Advisory Committee

Background on First 5 San Diego Commission's Current Projects

2-1-1 INFORMATION AND REFERRAL

2-1-1 San Diego is a free 24-hour phone service and online database that connects people with community resources. 2-1-1 also operates a First 5 San Diego Warm Line (1-800 5FIRST5) that assists parents of children ages zero through five with locating services and resources for their families.

CHILDHOOD INJURY PREVENTION PROGRAM

The Childhood Injury Prevention Program educates parents, caregivers, and early childhood education staff about childhood injury prevention strategies to make homes, automobiles, and communities safer for children ages zero through five.

FIRST 5 FIRST STEPS (F5FS)

F5FS provides countywide home visitation services to specific high-risk target populations including pregnant and parenting teens, military, refugee/immigrant, and low-income families using the Healthy Families America (HFA) model and Baby TALK curriculum.

HEALTHY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES (HDS)

HDS is an array of services for early identification and treatment of children with mild to moderate developmental delays. Services include assessment and treatment for behavioral and developmental concerns (including speech and language, occupational and physical therapies), parent education and care coordination to all families receiving HDS services.

KIDSTART

KidSTART is an integrated program within First 5 San Diego and the Health and Human Services Agency's Behavioral Health Services to support children with complex developmental, socio-emotional/behavioral health, medical, and family needs. The KidSTART Center performs screening, triage, assessment, referrals and treatment for children with multiple, complex delays, and needs. The KidSTART Clinic, funded by Behavioral Health Services, provides comprehensive behavioral and social-emotional clinical treatment (First 5 San Diego funding supports the Center only).

KIT FOR NEW PARENTS

The Kit for New Parents is a free, comprehensive resource from First 5 California for new and expectant parents emphasizing the importance of a child's early years. Kits are distributed countywide and are available in English, Spanish, Korean, Vietnamese, and Chinese.

MATERNITY HOUSING PROGRAM (MHP)

The MHP provides safe, secure and supportive housing with comprehensive home-based family-focused supportive services and intensive case management services for pregnant and parenting young women between 18 and 24 years old, and their dependent children. MHP assists these young women who are homeless, or at risk of becoming homeless, develop the skills necessary to live independently while providing a safe and stable home for them and their children.

MI ESCUELITA THERAPEUTIC PRESCHOOL

Mi Escuelita provides a therapeutic preschool experience for young children 3-5 years old who have been traumatized by family violence. The goal of this program is to help children enter kindergarten as active learners by working with the family emotionally, socially, and developmentally.

ORAL HEALTH INITIATIVE (OHI)

OHI provides oral health services, care coordination and preventative education to children ages birth through five with the goal of improving oral health and promoting positive oral health practices.

LEARN WELL INITIATIVE

The Learn Well Initiative supports sustainable development of quality early learning and care programs and aims to support providers in the form of technical assistance, instructional support, coaching and ongoing professional development.

SHARED SERVICES ALLIANCE (SSA)

The Shared Services Alliance is an approach to strengthen small early learning and care businesses by providing them the supports to strengthen their business practices. The SSA is aimed at building a sustainable provider-based childcare system by providing technology and staff infrastructure that enable sharing of staff, information, and resources. A Shared Services Alliance Network provides business efficiencies to childcare providers, the majority of whom are low-income women of color, increasing business sustainability and expanding care for low-to-moderate income communities.