

First 5 Commission of San Diego
November 9, 2023
Staff Report

Updates Since Last Report

Health

- **Healthy Development Services (HDS) and KidSTART Center**
 - Providers continue working on outreach strategies to connect with community partners and engage with families.

- **Healthy Development Services (HDS) Countywide Coordinator: American Academy of Pediatrics – Chapter 3 (AAP-CA3)**
 - AAP-CA3 continues work with UC San Francisco on identifying possible ways to bill Medi-Cal for HDS services.

Family

- **First 5 First Steps (F5FS) Countywide Coordinator: American Academy of Pediatrics – Chapter 3 (AAP-CA3)**
 - AAP-CA3 started working with ICF for the Family First Prevention Services Act. AAP-CA3 will continue working with ICF, First 5 and the First Steps multi-site system (MSS) to ensure fidelity to HFA requirements while implementing the Child Welfare Protocol within the system.

- **California Children & Families Foundation, Inc. (CACFF)**
 - First 5 San Diego is in process of finalizing the Home Visiting Systems Mapping contract with CACFF. Once executed, CACFF will work with AAP-CA3 and First 5 (Region 10) to help create a home visiting mapping tool. This tool will help ensure families are referred to the best home visiting program to meet their family's needs.

- **First 5 First Steps (F5FS)**
 - All First Steps contractors have completed their on-boarding with ICF for the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA). Going forward, First 5 will work with the contractors to amend contracts to include updated language for FFPSA and HFA with their approved Child Welfare Protocol which expands eligibility requirements and outlines coordination between HFA site and Child Welfare workers. This language will allow regions to expand enrollment opportunities to include children and families who engage with CFWB/CWS.

Community

- **Community Outreach and Engagement Events**

First 5 San Diego is proud to have sponsored or participated in the following 7 community outreach events:

- October 14, 2023 – County of San Diego – Southeastern Live Well Center Open House and Resource Fair (**Participated**)
- October 19, 2023 – SERRA Youth Services Committee – Youth Services Development Workshop (**Participated**)
- October 22, 2023 – County of San Diego Parks and Recreation – Waterfront Park Pumpkin Patch (**Sponsored**)
- October 22, 2023 – Imagen Group Inc. Radio Latina – Dia De Los Muertos 2023 (**Sponsored**)
- October 31, 2023 – Faith Chapel – Trunk or Treat (**Participated**)
- November 1, 2023 – County of San Diego – Live Well Advance (**Sponsored**)
- November 4, 2023 – County of San Diego – Department of Homeless Solutions and Equitable Communities (**Participated**)

Administration

- **Data and Evaluation**

- Annual Reporting process went smoothly this year with great coordination among all parties, First 5, Harder+Co (evaluation provider), Persimmony (database contractor) and MIG (marketing contractor).

- **Finance Committee**

- The Committee did not have a scheduled meeting since the last Commission meeting.

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

- First 5 Association board met on 10/20/23 and there were updates to the policy priorities related to the one-time budget ask, that the focus would be more on securing long term sustainable funding is to be discussed at the next Policy Committee meeting.
- ED Arguilez, participated in the LiveWell Advance session focused on the new HHSA Child and Family Wellbeing department.
- 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.
- 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
 - First 5 Association Public Policy Committee Chair
 - Department of Defense Military Childcare Statewide Workgroup
 - Catalyst San Diego 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.