



*September 23, 2021 COMMISSION MEETING
AGENDA PACKET ATTACHMENTS*

ATTACHMENTS

Attachments:

ITEM 4: Consent Agenda

- a) June 23, 2021 Minutes (Draft)
- b) FY 20-21 Q4 Financials
- c) Memo RE: Salary Study and Ad Hoc Personnel Committee
- d) Memo and Commission Meeting Calendar 2022

ITEM 5: Memo re: First 5 California Shared Services Alliance Pilot Program Grant

ITEM 8: Child Care Studies

**FIRST 5 SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION**

COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

June 24, 2021 DRAFT

Current Commissioners Present

Bruce Gibson SLO County Board of Supervisors
Penny Borenstein, M.D. SLO County Public Health Department

James Brescia, Ed.D (late arrival) SLO County Office of Education
Devin Drake Department of Social Services
Melinda Sokolowski Child Care Planning Council
Alison Ventura, Ph.D. (late arrival) Community at Large
Bob Watt Community at Large

Commissioners Absent/Excused --

James Tedford, M.D. Medical Representative (AAP Chapter 2)
Erica Ruvalcaba-Heredia, Ed.D Community at Large

Staff Present

Commission staff: Wendy Wendt, Jason Wells, Misty Livengood, Kris Roudebush
Commission Counsel: Natalie Frye-Laacke

Call to Order

Chair Gibson called the meeting to order 11:34 AM.

ITEM 12 (carryover from May 25, 2021 meeting) – Closed Session Executive Director Evaluation

Commissioners returned from Closed Session. Commission Counsel Natalie Frye-Laacke announced that there is nothing to report.

Public Comment: none.

ITEM 1 –Chair Comments

Chair Gibson reminded that this is the last Commission meeting of the fiscal year; the next scheduled regular meeting will be on September 23, 2021.

He encouraged Commissioners to stay connected with staff and programs over the summer.

Chair Gibson reorganized agenda order to ensure action items addressed and due to anticipated need for early end to the meeting because of overlapping obligations for several Commissioners.

ITEM 2 - Public Comment – Items not on the agenda

None

ITEM 3 – Commissioner Comments/Announcements (Postponed until later in the meeting; see below).

ITEM 4 - Consent Agenda

- a) Approve May 27, 2021 minutes
- b) Approve Recommendation to Board of Supervisors for new 4-year terms for Designated Commissioners: 1) Public Health Agency, Dr. Penny Borenstein; 2) County Office of Education, Dr. James Brescia and 3) County Department of Social Services, Ms. Linda Belch as designated representatives on the Commission for the period of July 21, 2021 to July 20, 2025

Public Comment: None

Commissioner Watt made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Drake and passed unanimously (note: Commissioners Ventura and Brescia did not vote due to late arrival).

ITEM 5-6 (postponed until later in the meeting; see below)

ITEM 7 – Contract Approval: SLO Chamber of Commerce Family Friendly Workplace Accelerator Program

Associate Director Jason Wells introduced this action item. First 5 is excited to partners with the SLO Chamber and the County of San Luis Obispo on this new initiative. This is anticipated as a three-year contract, \$75,000/year (total \$225,000) to be matched by the County. A full-time position will be added to the SLO Chamber team.

SLO Chamber CEO Jim Dantona thanked the Commissioner for this investment and opportunity to build a healthy child care sector; he also thanked Commissioner Gibson for working with the County to help solidify their commitment to the partnership.

Commissioner Borenstein expressed support for the work, commenting that we are moving toward real tangible efforts on this issue, and out of the “discussion phase.”

Commissioner Gibson commented that this new program will offer a proof of concept. It also matches up well with County planning related to American Rescue Plan investments to support child care.

Commissioner Borenstein made a motion to approve a three-year contract in the amount of \$225,000 with the SLO Chamber of Commerce for a Family Friendly Workplace Accelerator Program. Contract term July 1, 2021-June 30, 2024. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sokolowski and passed unanimously (note: Commissioners Ventura and Brescia did not vote due to late arrival).

ITEM 8 (postponed until later in the meeting; see below)

ITEM 9 - Approve Long-Range Financial Plan Update

Executive Director Wendy Wendt introduced this item. First reading of the long-range financial plan took place at the May Commission meeting. The draft presented for approval today is nearly identical, with several minor modifications, including updated Prop 10 revenue projections provided in late May by First 5 CA. Ms. Wendt also explained that the Long-Range Financial Plan uses the more conservative of two projection scenarios included in the First 5 CA update: anticipating a possible Flavor Ban on tobacco products that would go into effect if approved by the California voters in November 2022.

Commissioner Gibson underscored the importance of this long-range view on First 5 SLO County's fiscal future.

Public Comment: none

Commissioner Watt moved to approve the Long-Range Financial Plan Update. Motion seconded by Commissioner Borenstein. Motion passed unanimously. (note: Commissioner Ventura did not vote due to late arrival).

ITEM 10 – Approve FY 2021-22 Administrative Budget

Ms. Wendt introduced the final draft of the FY 2020-21 Administrative Budget. A first reading was conducted at the May 2021 Commission meeting. No changes since the May reading.

Public comment: None.

Commissioner Drake moved to approve the FY 2021-22 Administrative Budget; Commissioner Brescia seconded. Motion passed unanimously. (note: Commissioner Ventura did not vote due to late arrival).

ITEM 5 – Staff Report

Misty Livengood updated the Commission on various projects and information regarding First 5 SLO County:

- Various social media campaigns – mental health, “raise the rates” for ECE reimbursement
- We are the Care – New email, ads, excitement about the SLO Chamber partnership (see above Agenda Item 7)
- Awaiting new child care supply distributions via First 5 CA
- Summer reading programs mobilizing; Marilu Gomez continues Talk Read Sing Wednesdays
- Help Me Grow Hands on Heroses – June is Alison Borgsmiller, Nurse Practitioner with Bravo Pediatrics; July is Susanne Murphy, Early Interventionist with SLO County Office of Education.
- Reminder of event sponsorship opportunities in the upcoming fiscal year: up to \$500 toward support for one-time events that align with the First 5 Strategic Plan.
- First 5 Focus – intern project that profiles various First 5 funded programs.

ITEM 6 – Advocacy Updates

Commissioner Gibson opened the agenda item with a comment on the tremendous opportunity that the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding affords us to invest in early childhood. He encouraged “big proposals” in this area.

Kris Roudebush, First 5 Special Projects Administrator, provided an update on We Are the Care activities in the four Task Force areas:

- Public Awareness – a Public Profile is being developed; will appear in print and social media over the summer.
- Power to the Profession is mobilized around compensation and workforce issues as related to early care and education professionals
- Cross Sector Collaboration is anticipating the possibility of fall workshops for employers in conjunction with the Family Friendly Workplace Toolkit and new SLO Chamber partnership
- Local Government Engagement is working on ARPA advocacy.

Wendy Wendt, Executive Director, updated on the Collaborative Public Sector Child Care Study, which is moving toward an “implementation” phase building on the results of the Feasibility Report produced by the Low Income Investment Fund team.

Ms. Wendt updated on the ARPA funding proposal submitted by a coalition of local early childhood groups. The County and all seven Cities received a version of this proposal, which articulated “5% for children 0-5 and their families,” with specific one-time supports related to COVID resilience/recovery. Proposed investment areas are in 1) child care, 2) family resource centers, 3) mental health, and 4) housing stabilization.

Commissioner Sokolowski acknowledged that First 5 staff used a very inclusive process to develop this proposal. Commissioner Gibson agreed, praised the power of a coalition approach.

Ms. Wendt gave a brief update on state level advocacy. She has recently joined an interim subcommittee of the First 5 Association that is focused on policy/advocacy in the wake of Margot Grant Gould's departure from her Policy Director role at the Foundation.

Public Comment: NONE

ITEM 8 – Carsel Consulting Group for First 5 Evaluation Services

Jason Wells introduced this item. Three proposals were received in response to an RFP for Evaluation Services. A review committee that included Mr. Wells, Ms. Wendt and Commissioners Watt and Ventura assessed the merits of the three submittals. The Committee was unanimous in its recommendation to contract with Carsel Consulting. This is a three-person team, coordinated by Becca Carsel (note: current contractor for the Health Access Training Project), and including Amanda Welsh and Laura Keene. Together they bring a wealth of experience in both traditional outcome evaluation as well as evaluation of networks and social change initiatives. They also hold significant knowledge of both First 5 and the local community.

Staff recommends a one-year contract, with an option to renew for up to two additional years.

Commissioner Gibson commended long-standing evaluation consultant Tom Keifer for his years of expert guidance in First 5's evaluation program.

Commissioner Watt moved to approve a one-year evaluation contract in the amount of \$30,000 to Carsel Consulting Group, with an option to renew for up to two additional years. Commissioner Sokolowski seconded. The motion passed unanimously (note: Commissioner Brescia did not vote on this item, as he had temporarily stepped away from the meeting).

ITEM 9 (part 2) Road Map for 2021-22 Program Allocation (Update/Board Direction)

Mr. Wells proposed the following two staff recommendations for FY 21-22 program funding (total available ~\$1,000,000)

- Identify and allocate modest “budget bumps” for current multi-year contracts, based on need and prior year outcomes. Maximum total allocation in this area not to exceed \$100,000.
- Issue an RFP for one or more “big idea” investment. Look to the community for proposals that align with First 5 Strategic Plan. RFP to be released in summer 2021; review and contract approval fall 2021. Contracts would be for three fiscal years.

Commissioners offered support and consensus in directing staff to pursue both of these approaches.

ITEM 3 – Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Gibson: Thank you to staff for adapting during the pandemic.

Commissioner Watt: Evaluation Services RFP and proposal review process was well executed and easy for Commissioners to participate in.

Commissioner Borenstein announced state Public Health funding to support local equity projects. Four organizations awarded funding, all align with First 5 interests: 1) SLO Food Bank/Cal Fresh Alliance, 2) UndocuSupport, 3) CAPSLO CCRC Family Friend and Neighbor supports, and 4) Herencia Indigena.

Commissioner Sokolowski reflected on how we mobilized as a community; child care never stopped in SLO County – continued to support families throughout the pandemic.

Commissioner Drake thanked the Commission and staff for the opportunity to serve. It has been an honor. He commented that Linda Belch will be a phenomenal addition to the Commission, and anticipates a smooth transition to her participation.

Commissioner Gibson wished everyone a good summer. Next meeting September 23, 2021. TBA regarding zoom, in-person, or hybrid.

ITEM 11 – Adjournment

1:00 p.m.



To: First 5 Commissioners

From: Wendy Wendt

Date: September 23, 2021

Re: ITEM 4c: 2020-21 Fourth Quarter Financial Report

Recommended Action

Staff recommends the Commission approve the Administrative Budget report, Operating Statement and Balance Sheet (unaudited) for Fiscal Year 2020-21 as of June 30, 2021.

Administrative Budget

As of June 30, 2021, 91.1% of the administrative budget was spent.

Administrative budget comments:

1. Program Related Administrative Expenses – Administrative budget spending has been reduced by \$68,874 (a portion of office rent and staffing cost allocated to program activities). The cost is directly related to work performed for funded programs and can be considered program related expenses as defined by the GFOA guidelines.

Administrative Expense as Percent of Total Operating Expense

The Commission's adopted administrative cap is set at 15%. The administrative cap amount is defined as a percentage of Total Operating Expense. The policy also states that staff will monitor the administrative percentage to ensure it remains within approved limits. If the percentage exceeds the cap amount, staff is required to alert the Commission and explain the reason for a percentage in excess of 15%.

As of June 30, 2021, the Administrative Expense as a percentage of Total Operating Expense is 12.9% (\$239,771/\$1,847,026), down from 18.4% in Quarter 3 as contracted program expenditures increase.

Operating Statement

As of June 30, 2021 net revenue is \$902,517. This higher-than-average net revenue position is attributed to a combination of 1) decreased service levels in several funded programs due to the COVID pandemic, and 2) higher than average tobacco tax appropriations due in part to a large lump sum distribution of Prop 56 backfill funds in Q3.

Operating Statement comments:

1. Prop 10 Tobacco Tax Revenue – Tax revenue *scheduled* to date for FY 2020-21 through June of Q4 is \$1,741,456. This includes \$402,266 in Proposition 56 backfill and \$1,052 in state interest.

Tax Revenue Distribution Schedule 2020-21

July 2020	August 2020	September 2020	October 2020	November 2020	December 2020	January 2021	February 2021	March 2021	April 2021	May 2021	June 2021
115,017	126,687	126,642	124,681	44,622	127,898	148,931	32,255	140,521	121,288	122,980	106,597

Tax Revenue Distribution Schedule 2019-20

July 2019	August 2019	September 2019	October 2019	November 2019	December 2020	January 2020	February 2020	March 2020	April 2020	May 2020	June 2020
107,684	128,043	93,816	111,455	38,636	119,384	186,482	91,227	91,567	139,187	83,817	119,084

2. Total revenue *received* from all sources through June 30, 2021 is \$2,749,543. This includes IMPACT and IMPACT HUB payments totaling \$101,805; four local interest payments; two MAA payments; \$80,000 in combined contributions from four public sector partners to fund the Child Care Study, \$20,000 in Help Me Grow start-up funds from County DSS, accrued April-June payments from the 2019-20 Tax Revenue Distribution Schedule totaling \$202,901; accrued IMPACT/HUB program income of \$426,614 and accrued state interest totaling \$5,911.
3. Total Program and Administrative Expenditures through June 30, 2021 are \$1,847,026.

Fund Balance Detail

GASB 54	6/30/2020 (audited)	9/30/2020	12/31/2020	3/31/2021	6/30/2021 (audited)
Nonspendable	\$ 7,277		\$ 7,277	\$ 7,277	\$ 7,277
Restricted	\$ 52,140		\$ 52,140	\$ 52,140	\$ 52,140
Committed	\$ 4,177,581		\$ 3,956,293	\$ 3,672,055	\$ 3,509,556
Assigned	\$ 4,777,204		\$ 5,155,223	\$ 5,854,886	\$ 5,818,930
Unassigned					
TOTAL	\$ 9,014,202		\$ 9,170,933	\$ 9,586,358	\$ 9,387,903



	Jul20-Sep20	Oct20-Dec20	Jan21-Mar21	Apr21-Jun21	Total
Child Health and Development					
BABES (SLO Co PHD)		42,176	52,165	85,029	179,370
Baby's First Breath (SLO Co PHD, TCP)		5,017	3,166		8,183
Oral Health Safety Net Treatment (Contribution)					-
Oral Health Coordinator (SLO Co PHD)		3,206	3,787	15,387	22,380
Tolosa Children's Dental Clinic			12,847	13,419	26,266
Vision Screening		308		405	713
BEST PALS (Pediatric Physical Therapy Services)		8,893	13,607		22,500
Health Access Trainers (Carsel Consulting Group)	923	4,539	10,394	9,616	25,472
3 by 3 Research (Carsel Consulting Group)	434	1,292	1,701	4,928	8,355
3 by 3 Internal Program Expenses		2,535	105	479	3,119
3 by 3 Bravo	4,490	6,461	5,474	8,234	24,659
3 by 3 CHC		14,543	17,045	31,416	63,004
HMG Centralized Access Point		64,247		139,288	203,535
TOTAL	5,847	153,217	120,291	308,201	587,556
Early Learning					
PR First 5 ECE - Donation Equipment					-
First 5 Preschools			21,979	45,472	67,451
(GB) School Readiness, Georgia Brown Elem (PRJUSD)			42,506		42,506
Little Wings Preschool		38,000		62,000	100,000
COVID Child Care Stipends (CAPSLO)				125,000	125,000
TOTAL	-	38,000	64,485	232,472	334,957
Family Strengthening					
(GB) Family Advocacy			25,331		25,331
Parents Helping Parents	3,114	12,681	9,493	16,256	41,544
Family Advocacy Services (CFSSLO)	14,483	7,361	22,156		44,000
MP Health			4,802	7,023	11,825
South County Youth Coalition			1,177	10,242	11,419
The LINK -- COVID Family Resilience Partnership			15,220	41,465	56,685
Pregnancy and Parenting Support of SLO County			2,380	6,843	9,223
CAPSLO COVID Relief Funds				32,268	32,268
TOTAL	17,597	20,042	80,559	114,097	232,295
IMPACT SLO					
Quality Counts -- COVID Stipends (LPC)				77,000	
TOTAL				77,000	77,000
Advocacy Projects					
CBOR/HOH	1,450	2,024	1,350	2,442	7,266
WATC		957	240	225	1,422
Talk Read Sing Campaign			598		598
New/General Advocacy		2,500	9	24	2,533
Other Advocacy Projects					-
TOTAL	1,450	5,481	2,197	2,691	11,819
Other					
Evaluation - Core Allocation	4,038	10,796	6,036	7,099	27,969
Child Care Feasibility Study			28,292		28,292
Kits for New Parents	435	435	447	526	1,843
Event Sponsorships				2,000	2,000
Emergency Response Funding		27,300			27,300
TOTAL	4,473	38,531	34,775	9,625	87,404
TOTAL PROGRAM AND EVALUATION EXPENSE	29,367	255,271	302,307	744,086	1,331,031

Quarter ending: 6/30/2021



First 5 Children and Families Commission of San Luis Obispo County				
Administrative Budget				
FY 20-21				
June 30, 2021				
	Beginning	YTD	Ending	%
	Budget Bal	Expensed	Budget Bal	Expensed
Regular Hours - Permanent	440,081	396,506	43,575	90%
Computer Supplies	1,000	799	201	80%
Copy/Printing	2,000	-	2,000	0%
Food	800	59	741	7%
Insurance	3,700	4,004	(304)	108%
Copier Maint Contract	500	38	462	8%
Memberships	5,000	5,240	(240)	105%
Office Expense	3,000	1,088	1,912	36%
Other Services - Auditor Dept.	8,310	8,310	-	100%
Postage - Direct	100	43	57	43%
Professional Services	60,710	37,322	23,388	61%
Registration/Training	5,000	254	4,746	5%
Rent	45,072	45,077	(5)	100%
Significant Value Purchase	10,000	3,329	6,671	33%
Special Dept Expense	12,000	10,653	1,347	89%
Phone, Data, Internet Access	5,000	3,273	1,727	65%
Other Travel Expenses	4,000	-	4,000	0%
Contingency	5,717	-	5,717	0%
Total Administrative Expense	611,990	515,995	95,995	84%
Less: Program Related Admin	(348,834)	(276,224)	(72,610)	79%
Net Administrative Expense	263,156	239,771	23,385	91.1



First 5 Children and Families Commission of San Luis Obispo County
Operating Statement (Unaudited)
FY 20-21
June 30, 2021

EXPENSES	Jul - Sept	Oct - Dec	Jan - Mar	Apr-Jun	YTD
Administration	141,707	109,131	134,302	130,855	515,995
Less: Program Related Admin	(65,649)	(79,539)	(61,163)	(68,874)	(275,225)
Net Administrative Expense	76,058	29,592	73,139	61,981	240,770
Program & Evaluation					
Child Health and Development	5,847	153,217	120,291	308,201	587,556
Early Learning		38,000	64,485	232,472	334,957
Family Strengthening	17,597	20,042	80,559	114,097	232,295
IMPACT				77,000	77,000
Hands on Heroes	1,450	2,024	1,350	2,442	7,266
We Are the Care		957	240	225	1,422
Collaborative Child Care Study			28,292		28,292
Other Advocacy		2,500	9	24	2,533
Talk Read Sing Campaign			598		598
Event Sponsorships				2000	2,000
Kits for New Parents	435	435	447	526	1,843
Evaluation (Core)	4,038	10,796	6,036	7,099	27,969
Emergency Response Funding		27,300			27,300
Plus: Program Related Admin	65,649	79,539	61,163	68,874	275,225
Total Program & Evaluation Expense	95,016	334,810	363,470	812,960	1,606,256
Total Operating Expense	171,074	364,402	436,609	874,941	1,847,026
REVENUE (Trust Fund: 3300000000)					
Prop 10 Tobacco Tax	317,918	378,010	723,736	417,045	1,836,708
IMPACT	77,000	349,614	17,907		444,521
IMPACT HUB Payment		65,448	18,450		
SMIF (Prop 10 interest)	5,911				5,911
MHSA Revenue	40,664		47,098	24,736.15	112,498
Interest (Local)		30,794	24,843	36,682	92,320
MAA	26,880	9,716		17,074	53,670
Other Revenue	20,000	80,017	20,000		120,017
Total Revenue	488,373	913,600	852,034	495,537	2,749,543
Net Revenue (Expenses)	317,299	549,198	415,425	(379,404)	902,517



First 5 Children and Families Commission of San Luis Obispo County			
Balance Sheet (TRUST FUND 3300000000)			
6/30/2021 (unaudited)			
ASSETS			
Cash in County treasury			\$ 9,374,867
Receivables - Accrued Income			
Rent Deposit & Prepaid Rent			\$ 7,277
Bank Deposit			\$ 10,000
	Total Assets		\$ 9,392,144
LIABILITIES			
Accounts/Salaries payable			\$ 184,191
Trust Deposits			\$ 1,000
Deferred Revenue			
	Total Liabilities		\$ 185,191
FUND BALANCE			
Fund Balance:			\$ 9,000,524
	Reserved for Encumbrances		\$ 598,274
	Total Reserved		\$ 598,274
	Fund Balance Available		8,608,678
	Total Fund Balance		\$ 9,206,953
	Total Liabilities and Fund Balance		\$ 9,392,144

To: First 5 Commission

From: Staff

Date: September 23, 2021

Re: ITEM 4c: Appoint Ad Hoc Personnel Committee to Advise on Updated Salary Study

Recommended Action

Staff recommends Commission appoint the following Commissioners and/or a member of their human resources staff to advise on the development of an updated Salary Study and Schedule for First 5 staff:

Commissioner Belch
Commissioner Brescia

Salary Study to be based on two comparative data sets – County equivalent positions, and staff salary schedules at comparably sized First 5 agencies that operate as independent public agencies in counties with similar cost of living. Salary Schedule proposal will be presented for review at the October 28, 2021 Commission meeting, with approval either on that date or at the December 2, 2021 Commission meeting.

To: First 5 Commission
From: Staff
Date: September 23, 2021
Re: ITEM 4d: Approval of 2022 Commission Meeting Calendar

Recommended Action

Staff recommends Commission approval of the following calendared dates and location for 2022 First 5 San Luis Obispo County Commission Meetings. Note that a change in day and time from prior years is being proposed, moving to Wednesdays from Thursdays, and starting at 3:00 p.m. instead of 11:30 a.m.

January 26
March 23
May 25
June 22
September 28
October 26
December 7

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings will convene from **3:00 – 5:30** p.m. All meetings will be held via Zoom until further notice, in keeping with current COVID safety protocols. Zoom login instructions will be made available one week prior to each scheduled Commission meeting.



payday
(bold)



2022

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September						
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December						
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To: First 5 Commission

From: Staff

Date: September 23, 2021

Re: ITEM 5: Authorize First 5 SLO County to Enter into an Agreement with First 5 California to Serve as Fiscal Lead for Shared Services Alliance Pilot for Early Learning and Care Grant

Recommended Action

Staff recommends the Commission authorize First 5 SLO County Executive Director to sign an Agreement with First 5 California to access a total of \$250,000 over two fiscal years (2021-22 through 2022-23). First 5 SLO County will provide fiscal oversight of the project, which will be primarily administered through a sole-source subcontract with Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo County (CAPSLO).

Background

On August 19, 2020, The First 5 California (F5CA) Commission approved \$1,500,000 from IMPACT 2020 to support the startup of Shared Services Alliances (SSA) in strategic areas of the state to support state infrastructure development. F5CA defines SSA as “a leadership and support framework that includes both pedagogy and business operations, with the power to transform the workforce and the quality of services for children, particularly those for whom quality early learning and care (ELC) can narrow the achievement gap.”

Members of the SLO County Quality Counts Consortium teamed up to develop and submit a proposal in response to a Request for Applications, released by F5CA in summer 2021. First 5 SLO County is designated as the Fiscal Lead, with primary operational responsibilities falling to the Child Care Resource Connection based at CAPSLO).

F5CA received a total of fifteen (15) applications, and selected seven for funding from the following counties – San Luis Obispo, San Diego, Ventura, Merced/Mariposa, Solano, Yolo, and Sonoma).

Contract language is currently under development by F5 CA and is anticipated to be processed with grant awardee organizations in the coming weeks.

Funding will allow CAPSLO’s Child Care Resource Connection to engage twenty programs, including 18 family child care programs and 2 child care centers in a Shared Services Alliance Network. First 5 California describes Shared Services Alliances as an emerging model in California meant to “strengthen small ELC Learning and Care businesses by supporting them to become financially sound and more efficient, allowing them to offer cost-effective high quality



ELC opportunities to children and families.” This Pilot project will build best practices in business through a combination of professional development, consultation and strategic investments including investments into automated system(s) for invoicing, collecting payment, tracking income and expenses; reviewing program viability; and possibly parent communication. Consultation, peer networking and mentorship will be integral to the project which will be aligned with and embedded within the SLO Quality Counts. The Pilot will explore the development of a substitute pool; consider ways of developing or strengthening local job boards; and promote efforts to strengthen peer mentoring as part of local efforts to address debilitating staffing issues.

Fiscal Impact

The total two-year allocation of SSA funds to First 5 San Luis Obispo County is \$250,000. First 5 SLO County anticipates contracting out the majority of these funds to CAPSLO’s Child Care Resource Connection, the county’s designated child care resource and referral entity charged with providing supports to child care businesses.

Approximately \$14,000 of SSA funds will support First 5 SLO County staff involvement in the project. The remaining \$236,000 will be subcontracted to CAPSLO for program implementation.

To: First 5 Commission

From: Staff

Date: September 23, 2021

Re: ITEM 8: Child Care Studies

Over the past 2 years, First 5 SLO County has intensified its voice and leadership around the issue of child care. The May 2019 Where's the Care Town Hall unleashed an unprecedented wave of interest in tackling the child care crisis, including the creation of the We Are the Care Initiative administered by First 5.

Item 8 on the September 23 agenda will include a staff update on We Are the Care and also a summary of two seminal reports that have recently been locally commissioned and completed. Both reports are posted as separate Agenda attachments for Commissioner review:

- Collaborative Child Care Study (Feasibility Report), produced by the Low Income Investment Fund and commissioned by County of San Luis Obispo, City of San Luis Obispo, Cal Poly and San Luis Coastal Unified School District
- Child Care Economic Impact Report, produced by BW Research, commissioned by Cuesta College