



FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 HIGHLIGHTS

Over the course of a year, First 5 San Luis Obispo County hosted community conversations and engaged Commissioners to craft a new Strategic Plan for 2024-2028, with an emphasis on systems building. The plan was guided by a Theory of Change Framework that helped to identify three high priority areas for our attention and investment: Early Health Foundations; Parent Engagement, Connection & Education; and Early Learning & Child Care. REDI continues to inform all of our work and community partnerships. One programmatic example this year was a professional development workshop hosted through the First 5 Health Access Training Project – “Promoting Resiliency for Immigrant Families” – that attracted 119 attendees, representing 30+ agencies, included a resource fair and future workshop opportunities. Over the last four years, First 5 SLO County has funded development of the SLO County Home Visiting Collaborative – an initiative to build cross-agency coordination and professional development. A highlight of the Collaborative this year was the SLO Thrive Symposium. The program featured Dr. Donna Beegle, who shared her personal and professional journey to inform more than 100 home visitors and family advocates on poverty's impact on maternal, infant, and early adolescent health. Participants gained insights into the experiences of families living in financial crises and reflected on how their own backgrounds influence communication and relationships. First 5 SLO County continues to be the fiscal lead for regional IMPACT Legacy work to advance early learning and care systems across San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties, through their respective Offices of Education. We also marked the culmination of our Shared Services Alliance pilot initiative, led by Community Action Partnership of SLO County, which coordinated more than 80 events to help child care businesses with coaching and capacity-building efforts such as automated software, access to affordable insurance, network building and peer support.