

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

**COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**  
May 23, 2018 (Approved June 27, 2018)

**Current Commissioners Present**

Bruce Gibson	SLO County Board of Supervisors
Penny Borenstein, M.D.	SLO County Public Health Department
James Brescia	SLO County Office of Education
Devin Drake	Department of Social Services
James Forester, DDS	Medical Representative (Central Coast Dental Society)
Janet Murphy	Community at Large
Tracy Schiro	Children's Services Network
Bob Watt	Community at Large

**Commissioners Absent/Excused --**

Melinda Sokolowski	Child Care Planning Council
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**Staff Present**

Commission staff: Wendy Wendt, Jason Wells, Misty Livengood  
Commission Evaluator: Tom Keifer  
Commission Counsel: Ray Biering

**Call to Order**

Chair Gibson called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m.

**ITEM 1 – Chair Comments**

None

**ITEM 2 - Public Comment – Items not on the agenda**

Stephanie Uclaray, Social Worker for Recruitment with County DSS, provided an update on DSS foster care recruitment in partnership with county schools. The effort will continue next year with an expanded goal to reach out to parent groups, and to churches with onsite daycares. The project is looking to an example of a partnership in Ventura County with church day care centers, many of whom offer free slots for foster youth.

### **ITEM 3 – Commissioner Comments/Announcements**

None

### **ITEM 4 - Consent Agenda**

- a. Approval of the March 28, 2018 Minutes.
- b. Approval of the FY 2017-18 Quarterly Financial Report.
- c. Approval of agreement with San Luis Obispo County for administrative services related to the Medi-Cal Administrative Services (MAA) program.
- d. Approval of a one-year contract amendment with Thomas Keifer for evaluation services (Core Priority Area programs and IMPACT) for the period July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019; total amount not to exceed amount designated in the Commission's Financial Plan (see Item 8).

*Public Comment: None*

Commissioner Watt made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Drake and passed unanimously.

Bob Watt, Devin Drake

### **ITEM 5 – Staff Report**

Misty Livengood provided updates on the following activities:

- Hands on Heroes – April Hero Tom Dobsyn (nominated by CASA), May Hero Sarah Sullivan (nominated by Parents Helping Parents)
- April Month of the Child Events: Children's Day in the Plaza and other kids' festivals
- Annual Update to Board of Supervisors, April 17, 2108
- Promoting Healthy Immigrant Communities – Forum in Arroyo Grande coordinated by Health Access Training Project
- Birth and Baby Fair at Sierra Vista Regional Medical Center
  - Commissioner Drake asked what questions parents ask at these types of events. Ms. Livengood responded – child care resources, Talk.Read.Sing., information on developmental milestones.
  - Commissioner Forester commented that Twin Cities Hospital is planning a similar outreach event.
- Kick-off of First 5 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary launched at Advocacy and Family Fun Day in Sacramento on May 2.
- First 5 SLO County is sponsoring Talk.Read.Sing. night at the San Luis Obispo Blues Game on June 9.

*Public Comment: None*

## **ITEM 6 – Child Care Landscape in San Luis Obispo County**

Shana Paulson, Children Services Manager with CAPSLO's Child Care Resource Connection presented an update on child care supply and demand in San Luis Obispo County.

She highlighted “bad news-good news”:

Bad News: large waiting lists, no centralized access point for child care referrals

Good News: subsidized programs now allow for 12-month eligibility and a higher income cap; programs receive a higher reimbursement per slot.

Nationwide an estimated 25% of children are in the care of relative caregivers.

17% of local requests are for non-traditional hours.

Infant Toddler care is a high need area. Part of the reason for this is licensing (low adult/child ratio and related staffing costs).

SB89 has created the Foster Care Bridge Program, which provides initial monetary assistance for resource families to cover the costs of child care. SLO County is one of the first two counties in CA to roll this out. So far 19 children from 13 families have received support.

Compensation is low in the profession. An estimated 46% of child care workers nationwide are receiving public support of some sort.

SLO County QRIS is reaching many providers – 36 centers and 39 family child care providers are working on quality improvement. Collectively they have logged about 2000 professional development hours.

Cal Poly Sociology Department is working with CAPSLO to conduct a – Child Care Planning Needs Assessment. Several questions related to child care and employment will be included. First 5 is planning to participate in the group providing input on study design.

Commissioners raised various questions, including:

- Is there a demographic correlation with use of Family Friend and Neighbor care versus center-based? Anecdotally, Latino families lean more toward FFN than Caucasian.
- Does CCRC track child care access/availability for children with special needs? Answer: no, though there is strong interest in increasing capacity/skill-set for providers to be able to better serve this population.
- Is there a centralized eligibility list for child care referrals? Answer: No. Some counties such as Tulare and San Francisco have local eligibility lists. This is something to look in to.

Commissioner Gibson requested that First 5 work with community partners to develop a regular update on the status of child care in the county, some sort of standardized approach to providing a “Child Care Report Card.” And aligned with this type of report, he encouraged

development of a cost analysis to meet unmet child care need. This combined report then begins to drive a conversation on policy. He encouraged activation of this type of annual report within the year.

Commissioners discussed the value of Family Friend and Neighbor care, and discussed one example of an employee group that is looking at a creative way to share child care in a coop setup, combined with 4 10-hour work days.

*Public Comment:*

Marilu Gomez, Georgia Brown School Readiness Coordinator in Paso Robles, works with families who would rather stay home with their kids but can't because they have to work.

**ITEM 7 – Approval of 2018-20 Program Contracts**

Associate Director Jason Wells introduced the item, a proposal for Commission approval of 15 contracts totaling \$2,835,623. Thirteen of the fourteen contracts have a two-year term, from July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2020. One contract, with Pediatric Physical Therapy Services, has a one-year term, due to anticipation of a more decentralized approach to funding early intervention services as related to development of a Help Me Grow system framework for San Luis Obispo County.

One contract, the BABES program with the County Public Health Department, has a modest increase, due to tight fiscal constraints at the county level. Commissioner Brescia expressed concern that a county program was the only program with an increased budget, while all other contracting organizations successfully maintained level funding.

*Public Comment: None*

All contracts approved (see next page)

Program	Organization	2 Year Contract Amount	Yes	No	Abstain
BABES	SLO Co PH (WIC)	\$358,740	7	0	Borenstein
Perinatal Mental Health Support Services	Center for Family Strengthening	\$13,534	7	0	Watt
Baby's First Breath	SLO Co PH	\$110,000	7	0	Borenstein
Parents Helping Parents	Parents Helping Parents	\$83,132	8	0	0
First 5 Preschools (2)	SLOCOE	\$384,208	7	0	Brescia
Georgia Brown School Readiness	Paso Robles JUSD	\$296,755	7	0	Brescia
Oceano School Readiness	Lucia Mar USD	\$283,170	7	0	Brescia
Early Learning For All	SLOCOE	\$88,818	7	0	Brescia
Vision Screening	Gary Englund and Associates	\$60,000	8	0	0
Oral Health Program Manager	SLO Co PH	\$80,000	6	0	Borenstein Forester
Oral Health Prevention for Children	Partnership for the Children – Tolosa Children's Dental Center	\$59,000	7	0	Forester
Health Access Trainers	Carsel Consulting Group	\$68,520	8	0	0
Best Pals	Pediatric Physical Therapy	\$45,000	8	0	0
IMPACT SLO	Community Action Partnership	632,834	8	0	0
IMPACT SLO	SLOCOE	271,912	7	0	Brescia
<b>TOTAL APPROVED AMOUNT</b>		<b>\$2,835,623</b>			

**ITEM 8 (PUBLIC HEARING/ACTION ITEM) – Annual Strategic Plan Review/Approval – (Long Range Financial Plan) (ACTION ITEM)**

Wendy Wendt reminded Commissioners of the annual exercise to review and update First 5 SLO County's Long Range Financial Plan as a part of its Strategic Plan. This Financial Plan update is at the mid-point of the current four-year Strategic Plan, which extends from 2016 to 2020. Assumptions related to long-range financial planning extend out 10 years through 2027-18. The 2017 increase in tobacco tax combined with the increased minimum smoking age is predicted to accelerate a decline in tobacco tax revenues to First 5 agencies. A backfill provision connected with the additional tax rate is anticipated to offset some of the decline in 2018-19. The Plan includes a very conservative view for this on outlying years, and uses a 5% decline rate for estimated Prop 10 revenue. At the end of the current update of the Financial Plan, a Fund Balance of \$2.719 million represents approximately two years of program expenditures. There is a floating contingency fund for MAA. The Commission has been advised by County Public Health and the external auditor that \$50,000 is an appropriate

amount. The other contingency is \$100,000 to capture the agency's long-term unfunded CalPERS liability.

An additional anticipated source of revenue in the coming two years includes funds from the IMPACT Hub to cover regional professional development and planning for IMPACT partners (First 5, CAPSLO, SLO County of Education).

Commissioner Borenstein made a motion to approve the updated Long-Range Financial Plan. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Schiro and passed unanimously.

### **ITEM 9 – FY 2018-19 Draft Administrative Budget**

Ms. Wendt introduced the draft administrative budget with a reminder that it is directly linked to the Long-Range Financial Plan as approved under Item 8. Total Admin Budget amount for FY 2018-19 is set at \$552,496. She noted that the budget is developed based on historical spending, budget parameters, and new directions. Key changes in the proposed budget in comparison to the prior year include increased personnel costs associated with Step increases for three staff members, a decrease in professional services (prior year expense for web design, now complete), increase in special department expense to cover materials and activities related to 20th anniversary, and an increase in travel expenses to cover Ms. Wendt's participation in a state Leadership Cohort.

A final draft of the FY 2018-19 Administrative Budget will be presented to the Commission for review and approval at its June 27, 2018 meeting.

*Public Comment:* None

### **ITEM 10 – Adjourn**

6:25 p.m.