

Communications & Outreach Update

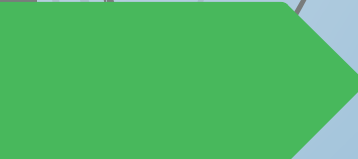
October 22, 2025





FY '24-'25 FIRST 5 SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY HIGHLIGHTS

First 5 San Luis Obispo County mobilized its 2024-2028 Strategic Plan with new areas of focus that emerged from community conversations centered around local needs during every-changing times. As a funder, our agency allocated dollars to two programs designed to combat early childhood education workforce-related challenges: 1) "Ticket 2 Teach," which addresses staffing shortages by recruiting, supporting and training apprentices who are interested in a career in Early Childhood Education (ECE) and 2) "Building Connections," which aims to improve access to quality, affordable early care for children aged 0-2 by providing training, coaching, and curriculum support to Family Child Care (FCC) providers and Family, Friend, and Neighbor (FFN) caregivers. First 5 SLO County funding also helped to give parent-child engagement classes a broader reach across our county, with the launch of "Aprendiendo con Mamá y Papá" (Learning with Mom and Dad), uniquely tailored to Mixteco-speaking families in the region. In that same spirit, First 5 SLO County joined other ally organizations to bolster support for immigrant families facing increasing uncertainty and barriers to health care, basic provisions and other essential resources. Amid dramatic funding and policy shifts at the federal, state and local levels, our agency also amplified its partner-convening role and established a First 5 Early Childhood Stabilization Fund to help safeguard critical services for young children and their families. This year First 5 SLO County mobilized a regional Child Care Coalition focused on child care as an economic mobility strategy, with grant funding from Uplift Central Coast as part of the California Jobs First regional initiative. This collaborative space brings together cross-sector child care champions throughout six Central Coast counties— with goals of shared learning, policy change promotion, and identifying regionally scalable child care models.



Points of Pride...

PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 6, 2025



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**The Community Foundation Launches Together for SLO County: A Critical Response Fund —
\$1.2 Million County Investment Bolsters Momentum; First 5 Pledges \$100,000**

San Luis Obispo, CA — October 6, 2025 — The Community Foundation San Luis Obispo County today announced a major scaling of its Together for SLO County: Critical Response Fund, thanks to a \$1.2 million investment from the County of San Luis Obispo. This public-private partnership will help nonprofits weather deep funding cuts while building long-term resilience across the region.

The Foundation launched Together for SLO County in September to address urgent funding gaps facing local nonprofits. In recognition of that leadership, the County Board of Supervisors has now stepped in with one-time transitional funding, providing both critical support and momentum to leverage additional philanthropy. The County's original Community Based Organization grant funding will be administered through the Foundation to ensure equitable, transparent, and responsive distributions.

"Together for SLO County began as a community-led response to shrinking nonprofit support," said Christine Dawson, CEO of The Community San Luis Obispo County. "With the County's \$1.2 million investment, we have a tremendous opportunity to amplify our reach. The commitment gives us a foundation on which to raise more private dollars, so that nonprofits not only survive this moment—but build toward a sustainable future."

In addition to the County's lead gift, First 5 San Luis Obispo County has pledged \$100,000, specifically earmarked to support early childhood, family support, and related services. The organization's early engagement is a valuable signal to other funders and helps strengthen the overall funding pool.

"In this incredibly challenging year, it is such a relief to see the partnership between San Luis Obispo County's Board of Supervisors, First 5 San Luis Obispo County, and The Community Foundation to provide critical one-time funding for programs that were slated to be cut," said Jill Bolster-White, Executive Director of Transitions-Mental Health Association. "The bridge this funding creates will get many of our local nonprofits the help they need to serve our community's most vulnerable members. We are excited to see where this synergy between philanthropy and local government might lead!"

The Together for SLO County Critical Response Fund will focus grant support on organizations providing essential services such as food security, childcare, mental health, healthcare access, workforce development, and supportive services for vulnerable populations—especially foster youth, children with special needs, survivors of power-based violence, immigrant families, LGBTQIA+ community members, and individuals experiencing housing insecurity.

Grant recipients will receive not only short-term operating support, but also capacity-building assistance and sustainability planning, so that investments have enduring impact beyond this transitional period.



First 5 In The News!

**Public, private sectors
team up to provide
nonprofit funding
support in SLO County**



Partnerships, Programs & Promotion

The background is a solid light blue color. On the right side, there are several thin, curved lines in a slightly darker shade of blue, creating a sense of movement and depth. A thin vertical line is also present to the right of the text.



A Branding Boost & Learning Communities!



San Luis Obispo County Family-Friendly Workplaces



Atascadero
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



FIRST 5
SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY

The Atascadero Chamber of Commerce is collaborating with First 5 San Luis Obispo County and community leaders in on family friendly workplaces. Across the globe, businesses of all sizes are recognizing that supportive policies and practices increase organizational productivity, while also boosting the physical and emotional health of employees and their families. The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the overlapping lines between work and life, and provides a unique opportunity to consider how family-friendly options may be incorporated at your business.

"Quality of life is why most of our companies and residents choose to call the Central Coast home. Family-friendly workplaces add a critical quality of life component that is not captured by compensation alone. Promoting work-life balance and flexibility allows parents and careers to exist in harmony." – Loreli Cappel, Deputy Director of Economic & Community Development for the City of Atascadero

Take a look at some examples in action in SLO county:

COUNTY SPOTLIGHT

Family-Friendly Workplace Toolkit

The Family-Friendly Workplace Toolkit is designed to help employers large and small assess current business practices, identify opportunities for change, explore the benefits of family-friendly workplaces, and find the right size solutions for their business and their employees.

EXPLORE THE TOOLKIT

Child care survey results

Want to stand out from the crowd in attracting and retaining quality employees? Offer child care-related benefits to working parents.

That's the key takeaway from a survey of working parents showing that childcare in San Luis Obispo County is nearly impossible to find — and prohibitively expensive if you do.

SAVE A LIFE!!!

Donate your excess breast milk to
Mothers' Milk Bank



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24TH

10AM-2PM

GROWING WITH BABY

1230 Marsh Street, San Luis Obispo

- Complete medical history questionnaire
- Frozen milk donations accepted
- Enjoy light refreshments & Donor gift
- This is a free event & open to the public
- Blood draw will be done at a later date

Click here or contact
Leslie at 805-440-1271
for additional info:





Candy Buy-Back

Trade in your Halloween candy for prizes & raffle tickets!

¡Cambie sus dulces de Halloween por premios y boletos para una rifa!



CHC-SLO CASA
77 CASA ST, SUITE 202
SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA, 93401
NOV 3RD - 7TH, 2025
8 AM-5 PM

VISIT US @ [CHCCC.ORG](https://chccc.org)
VISITANOS @ [CHCCC.ORG](https://chccc.org)



DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS 2025

MISSION PLAZA, SAN LUIS OBISPO
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1 • 12:00 - 4:00 PM

- Folklorico dancers • Mariachis • Food & drink
- Community booths • Costumes & face painting
- Traditional altares

FREE COMMUNITY EVENT

HOSTED BY THE LATINO OUTREACH COUNCIL
 (PROCEEDS FUND SCHOLARSHIPS & COMMUNITY PROGRAMS)




Promotores Collaborative of San Luis Obispo Presents

Honoring Our Ancestors
 A Special Día de Los Muertos Event

Sunday, November 2 at 2:00 PM - Clark Center for the Performing Arts

Featuring Performances By

- Ballet Folklórico de Sacramento
- Danza Azteca Totonacín Arroyo Grande
- Ballet Folklórico Corazón de la Costa & Milania Jubilee
- Mariachi Mexicanismo and special act by Celeste Royer, Latino Outdoors Central Coast

Plus Catrinas Contest, Offering Altar, and More!
 Come early for Community Health & Information Fair (starts at 1 pm)

Tickets \$30-\$40
 Students/Children \$15-\$20
www.ClarkCenter.org (805) 489-9444

CLARK CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

SPONSORS:

- TREYOR MARI DESIGN-PRINTS
- Pacific Gas and Electric Company
- San Luis Obispo County
- HEALTH CAREER CONNECTION
- HUATULCO TACOS
- FIRST 5
- SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY

Anita Shower, Miss Etiquette Dr. Alice A. Addison



CELEBRATE DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS

WITH THE CENTRAL COAST ZOO!

NOVEMBER 1ST, 2025
10 A.M. - 1 P.M.

MUSIC • FOOD • CRAFTS • ¡Y MÁS!

For more information:
centralcoastzoo.org/events

Sponsored by

FIRST 5 **CCPN**

Central Coast Zoo
 Hwy 41/9100 Morro Road, Atascadero
 (805) 461-5080 VisitAtascadero.com



Paso Robles Main Street Association & Central Coast Hispanic Business Association event...

Paso Robles
Día de los Muertos
Sat., October 25, 2025

DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS
PASO ROBLES, CA

Downtown City Park
10 am - 4 pm

Free Admission
 For more info: pasoroblesdowntown.org

Vendors Food KIDS ZONE ARTS/RAFTS

FAMILY SHRINES AWARDS DANCERS MUSIC








County of SLO
Public Libraries
BIBLIOTECAS PÚBLICAS

Oceano Library PARENT SUPPORT CLASSES

Tuesdays | October 7 - November 4
10:30-11:30
Free!

For families with children ages 0-5. This five-week series will offer support and skills to improve bonding and healthy development.

The series will be offered in both English and Spanish.

Call the Oceano Library to register, or [register at SLOLibrary.org](http://SLOLibrary.org)



Oceano Library | 1511 19th St | 805-474-7478 | SLOLibrary.org



County of SLO
Public Libraries
BIBLIOTECAS PÚBLICAS

Biblioteca Oceano CLASES DE PARTICIPACIÓN DE PADRES

Martes | 7 de octubre - 4 de noviembre
10:30-11:30
¡Gratis!

Para familias con niños de edades 0-5 años. Una serie de 5 semanas que ofrecerá apoyo y habilidades para mejorar la vinculación y el desarrollo saludable.

Cada semana, los padres y los niños aprenderán juntos participando en actividades.

[¡Llame a la biblioteca para registrarse!](http://SLOLibrary.org)



Biblioteca Oceano | 1511 19th St | 805-474-7478 | SLOLibrary.org



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