

Commission Actions 9/26/22:

- ⇒ Approved Consent Agenda
- ⇒ Approved the Language Access Policy & two contracts for translation and interpretation to support language access
- ⇒ Approved recommended amendments to seven (7) multi-year contracts across strategic allocations.



First 5 Sonoma County
COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
September 26, 2022

**NOTE: HYBRID MEETING CONDUCTED IN-PERSON & VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM
PLATFORM**

I. Call to Order:

The First 5 Sonoma County Commission met virtually this date in regular session via Zoom. A quorum was present, **Chair Nora Mallonee Brand** called the meeting of the First 5 Sonoma County Commission to order at 3:32 pm.

Commission Members Present: Oscar Chavez, Raissa De La Rosa, Jennielynn Holmes (*arrived after Item IV.*), Supervisor Lynda Hopkins, Nora Mallonee Brand, Karissa Kruse, Dr. Jose Morales, and Denia Candela (*attended virtually*)

Staff: Angie Dillon-Shore, Renée Alger, Natalie Kramer, Sandra Uribe, Margaret Ingold, Leslie Corral Cisneros, Nora Cuevas, and Kathleen Natividad

II. Potential Conflicts of Interest

Chair Nora Mallonee Brand requested that Commissioners identify potential conflicts of interest and recuse themselves from discussing or voting on the identified matter.

No conflict of interest.

III. Public Comment on Non-Agendum Items

Chair Nora Mallonee Brand asked if there was any public comment on non-agendum items.

No public comment.

IV. Consent Agenda

Chair Nora Mallonee Brand asked if there was any discussion, or public comment on the consent agenda.

No discussion, and no public comment.

ACTION: Approve Consent Agenda

MOTION: KRUSE/HOPKINS

AYES: CHAVEZ, KRUSE, GUZMAN, BRAND, MORALES, HOPKINS, CANDELA,

NAYS: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

RECUSE: NONE

V. First 5 Sonoma Program Evaluation Update: 2021-2022 RBA Process and Measures

Renee Alger, First 5 Program Director, presented on the 2021-20252 Results Based Accountability (RBA) process and measures and overall program updates. She noted the Commission's formal social justice-focused

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commitment to equity, belonging, and anti-racism and how a targeted universalism approach was used throughout the RBA process.

Kathleen Natividad, Program Coordinator, presented on program and RBA updates for Priority Area I: Early Relational Health.

- Hamai Consulting's Home Visiting Coordination finished Strategic Planning and will be working on Implementation panning next Fiscal Year.
- Nurse Family Partnership worked on disaggregation of data.
- An update on New Parent TLC was made at the August Commission Meeting. Next Fiscal Year will be the development of focus groups for various connector sectors.
- Santa Rosa Community Health's (SRCH) HealthySteps worked with HealthySteps National to plan implementation at SRCH campuses and began recruitment for HealthySteps Specialists.
- Triple P added a Spanish training and will continue to look at ways to include different partners.
- An RBA example from NFP provided insight that although the disaggregation of data helped NFP implementers to see disparities in their program, there is still a lot of work to be done to create a more equity-centered program.

Ms. Sandra Uribe, Program Manager, then presented on program and RBA updates for Priority Area 2: Neighborhood Based Services.

- Awareness of the Child Savings Accounts program was increased through radio and social media ads, presentations to 22 AVANCE and Pasitos groups
- Family Centered Coaching was completed through the FRCS, there was also an increase in family participation, and Abriendo Puertas continues to be successful and is now offered at all FRCs.
- Redwood Community Health Coalition's CHW network had trainings from Imagine You and Center for Well-Being
- An RBA example for the Child Savings Accounts program demonstrates how the program has had success in partner outreach and collaboration over the first year of implementation.

Ms. Leslie Corral Cisneros, Program Manager, presented on program and RBA updates for Priority Area 3: Quality & Equity in Early Learning

- Coaching was provided to 7 Pasitos teachers and teachers participated in 25 training and support hours each
- Coaches participated in the TALLK project to support providers with Dual Language Learners (DLL), provided coaching support to newly licensed providers, and completed Teaching Pyramid at seven sites.
- The TALLK program launched Cohort 1 and provided ongoing consultation to coaches, collected dual language learner data for about 300 children and led a community of practice for providers.
- The Consultation Project met their target for Child Focused Cases (101 referrals) and supported over 30 sites.
- Partners have strengthened social emotional learning, strong adult to child interactions and support for DLLs.
- RBA performance measures from QCC shows significant gains among providers regarding feeling equipped to support the social emotional needs of children.

Ms. Alger presented updates for Priority Area 4/ 5: Community Resilience & Engagement and Cross Cutting Strategies.

- Catholic Charities opened Caritas Village, served 81 children 0-5, and implemented bi-weekly drop-in enrollment for Head Start services.
- Generation Housing held 11 events with 495 community members in attendance
- Santa Rosa Metro Chamber tabled at the Latinos in the Workplace Conference where they provided information on Family Friendly work place polices to more than 20 companies.
- YWCA served 46 children 0-5 and restarted the Raising a Reader program.

Authored by: Kathleen Natividad

Date adopted: 10/24/22

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- Overall program challenges for many providers have caused delays in shared data system implementation include data collection quality, scheduling difficulties, Omicron surge, and high staff turnover rates. First 5 will continue moving forward a strategy of demonstrating impact and using data for continuous quality improvement, implementing Apricot and supporting partners in the development of impact statements.

Commissioner Chavez commented that the presentation was impressive and lifts up the challenges that are really opportunities to see where there are gaps in programs and services. He is excited to see the learning community across and sectors.

Commissioner de la Rosa acknowledged the difficulty in data collection and analysis, and she said the data around the number of programs and demographic information, is isolated but small incremental access, which is important to advancing initiatives and ideas.

Commissioner Morales asked what are we all doing this for in the long run and encouraged staff to include contextual information around the purpose of evaluation and data collection.

Commissioner Holmes empathized with the challenges of data collection.

Ms. Alger stated that the overall goal of this data collection is eliminate disparities.

Commissioner Candela appreciated the work around disaggregated data and is looking forward from what's to come and how to advance this work. There is a need to build capacity with partners and she is thankful for First 5 staff in leading the way.

Commissioner Kruse noted that RBA creates a great framework to understand return on investment and how we reach the communities that need the most support.

Chair Mallonee Brand expressed gratitude and as a part of the evaluation committee, understands the effort that goes on behind the scenes.

VI. First 5 Sonoma Leadership Advisory Roundtable Update

Melanie Dodson, Executive Director with 4Cs and Leaderships Advisory Roundtable Chair, presented on Leadership Advisory Roundtable (LAR) update. The LAR met and discussed fentanyl exposures in the county and American Rescue Plan Act funding.

- Fentanyl impacts have significantly escalated: from 4 deaths in 2017 to 111 deaths in 2020.
- *Drug Free Babies* is seeing greater use in perinatal populations: Methamphetamine, Fentanyl, and Cannabis.
- The best way to keep children safe from drug exposure would be to have caregivers with a history of Substance Use Disorder or current substance use to create a Safety Plan.
- Naloxone is an important overdose prevention tool and is available at *Face to Face* with no questions asked
- LAR Members discussed how to share this information broadly throughout their networks.

Ms. Dodson then highlighted the discussion of American Rescue Plan Act program funding discussion which included CAP and 4Cs discussing their partnership in the *Early Care & Education Recovery Expansion* and First 5 Sonoma County giving an update on their facilities grants, Child Savings Account, and Guaranteed Basic Income

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programs funded with ARPA dollars. Ms. Dodson noted that all three organizations will be working together to align process throughout the ARPA rollout.

Commissioner Morales asked about providing Naloxone to families - if this is done or considered.

Ms. Dodson responded that is something she does not know and that all industries are approaching this in a different way. She is now thinking how families can access it if they need it in terms of their safety plan, and then her leadership team is starting to have a discussion around if they need to have it available as well,

Commissioner de la Rosa noted she attended the LAR meeting and that they had a robust conversation around Naloxone access in the community.

Commissioner Holmes added that she also was able to attend the meeting, and it was eye-opening how many people did not know about Naloxone. She stated that the drug saves at least two lives a quarter in her organization.

VII. Recommendation to Approve Language Access Policy & Contracts for Spanish Translation & Interpretation for First 5 Sonoma County Commission Meetings

Angie Dillon-Shore, Executive Director, presented on increasing language access specifically for First 5 Commission Meeting, including a draft Policy, with the intention to ensure that language access is institutionalized in First 5 Sonoma County's practices going into the future. The purpose of this Policy is to minimize barriers and increase access to First 5 Sonoma County Commission meetings, regardless of English language proficiency, national origin and/or cultural background. She also noted that language access is already happening daily in communications and programing.

Ms. Dillon-Shore framed the recommendation in an asset-based way, in that. community members are experts on their own needs and aspiration and the draft Policy recognizes them as critical stakeholders in co-creating solutions. She noted that the Commission already has made a strong investment in language justice, such as the implementation of a 10% bilingual staff premium.

The Policy was reviewed by the County's Office of Equity, which also provided input on the language. **Ms. Dillon-Shore** recommended adoption of the Policy with the additions made by Office of Equity and approve the contracts for Spanish Translation and Interpretation of Commission Meetings.

Vendor: Betzy Chavez
Amount: \$ 2,200
Service: Live Interpretation: Spanish to English
Term: 12/1/22-11/30/23

Vendor: Mariana Rivarola
Amount: \$ 8,000
Service: Commission Meeting Agenda & Minutes Translation
Term: 12/1/22-11/30/23

Commissioner de la Rosa asked about using headphones for in-person translation and First 5's preparedness to accommodate languages other than Spanish.

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Ms. Dillon-Shore said that when public return to in-person attendance, First 5 will most likely want to invest in headphones so interpreters could do simultaneous interpretation. Regarding specific languages, First 5 will align with language needs identified by the Office of Equity along with what we know through our own data collection. This is concerned a baseline proposal, a place to start, and ultimately the policy is aimed at removing all barriers around language across the board.

ACTION: Approve the Language Access Policy & the two contracts to support language access.

MOTION: DE LA ROSA/CANDELA

AYES: CHAVEZ, KRUSE, HOLMES, BRAND, MORALES, HOPKINS, CANDELA, DE LA ROSA

NAYS: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

RECUSE: NONE

VIII. Multi-year Contract Amendments

Ms. Renee Alger presented multi-year contract amendments for approval across all Priority Areas. Amendments are due to cost savings from the first year of program implementation, as mentioned in some of the program updates there were delays in hiring and staff turn which resulted in cost savings. First 5 is decided to amend the contracts so it was available in the budget.

Contractor & Project: Santa Rosa Community Health, *Healthy Steps*
Strategic Goal Area: Early Relational Health
Original Amount: \$1,110,898.00
New Amount: \$1,039,358.92
Term: 7/1/2021 – 6/30/2024

Contractor & Project: La Luz Center, *Estrellitas de La Luz*
Strategic Goal Area: Neighborhood-Based Services
Original Amount: \$483,680.00
New Amount: \$465,068.29
Term: 7/1/2021 – 6/30/2024

Contractor & Project: RCHC, *Community Health Neighborhood Network*
Strategic Goal Area: Neighborhood-Based Services
Original Amount: \$1,501,769.39
New Amount: \$1,439,436.67
Term: 7/1/2021 – 6/30/2024

Contractor & Project: 4Cs, *Quality Counts Coaching*
Strategic Goal Area: Quality and Equity in Early Learning
Original Amount: \$1,875,410.00
New Amount: \$1,827,595.38
Term: 7/1/2021 – 6/30/2024

Contractor & Project: SCOE, *TALLK*

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Strategic Goal Area: Quality and Equity in Early Learning
Original Amount: \$570,733.00
New Amount: \$545,381.73
Term: 7/1/2021 – 6/30/2024

Contractor & Project: YWCA, *Bilingual Community Resource Advocate*
Strategic Goal Area: Community Resilience and Engagement
Original Amount: \$113,890.00
New Amount: \$75,320.54
Term: 7/1/2021 – 6/30/2023

Contractor & Project: Catholic Charities, *Caritas Village Family Strengthening Hub*
Strategic Goal Area: Community Resilience and Engagement
Original Amount: \$319,213.00
New Amount: \$226,153.30
Term: 7/1/2021 – 6/30/2023

Ms. Dillon-Shore reminded the Commission that these funds were already allocated for strategic plan strategies, and will roll back to dedicated fund and will stay in those allocations. Almost all of the contracts are for three years, so an opportunity will exist to extend contracts to the fourth year depending on performance, need and other criteria TBD. She estimated the total reduction across these contracts at \$800,000 to \$1 Million.

Commissioner Holmes abstained from the vote.

ACTION: Approve recommended amendments to multi-year contracts.

MOTION: CHAVEZ/KRUSE

AYES: CHAVEZ, KRUSE, BRAND, MORALES, HOPKINS, CANDELA, DE LA ROSA

NAYS: NONE

ABSTAIN: HOLMES

RECUSE: NONE

IX. Adjourn

Chair Nora Mallonee Brand adjourned the meeting at 4:51 PM.