



Measure I

Sonoma County Child Care & Children's Health Ordinance

Community Advisory Council

January 22, 2026

Ancestral Land Acknowledgement

Today, the First 5 Sonoma County Commission and the Measure I Advisory Council is humbled to bring us together on the ancestral lands of the Southern Pomo People. We celebrate the active work of their descendants to preserve & nourish their indigenous culture and identity.

We acknowledge the Southern Pomo People as the traditional stewards and custodians of this area and honor with gratitude the land itself, all of its ancestors - past, present and future.

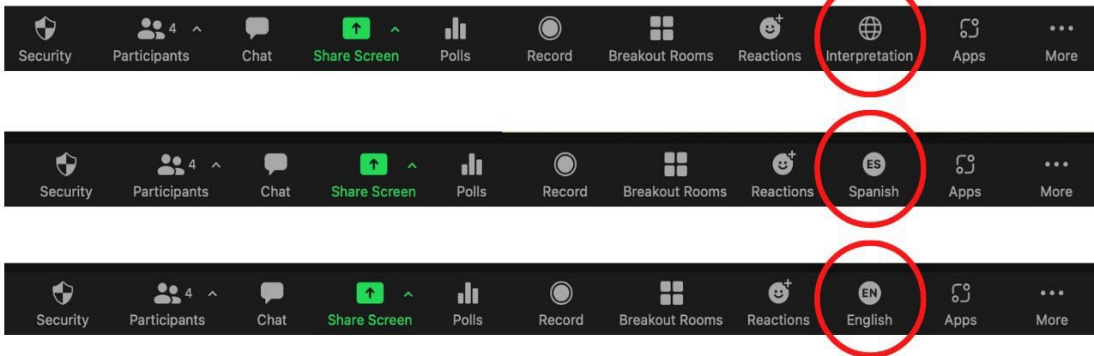
Welcome! ¡Bienvenidos!

Zoom Interpretation/Interpretación de Zoom



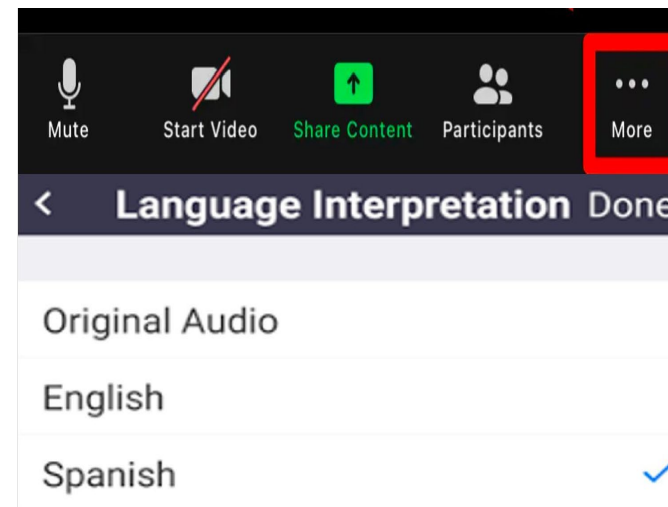
Computer / Computadora

1. Click on the "Interpretation" icon
2. Select your preferred language



1. Haga clic en el icono "Interpretación"
2. Elige su idioma preferido

Phone / Por Telefono



Agenda Review & Minutes Approval

Community Agreements



**Public comment
on non-agendized items**

**Comentarios públicos sobre
temas no incluidos en la
agenda**

We appreciate your comments!



01:53

Guidelines for Public Comment

Directrices para los comentarios públicos



- Public comments are brief statements intended to inform the CAC and First 5 about the topic/Action Item
- Comments from the public at public meetings do not include questions and is not intended to be a dialogue
- Appointed Council members and First 5 staff and consultants are discouraged from responding or discussing topics with the public (can potentially constitute a Brown Act violation)
- Time limits can (and typically will) be imposed per comment and/or for total time allotted
- Los comentarios públicos son declaraciones breves destinadas a informar al CAC y a First 5 sobre el tema o punto de acción.
- Los comentarios del público en reuniones públicas no incluyen preguntas y no están destinados a ser un diálogo.
- Se desalienta a los miembros designados del Consejo, al personal de First 5 y a los asesores de responder o discutir temas con el público (ya que podría constituir una violación de la Ley Brown).
- Se pueden imponer límites de tiempo por comentario y/o para el tiempo total asignado (y típicamente se impondrán).

First 5 Sonoma County Staff Report

First 5 Sonoma County Staff Report



- Measure I Allocation Plan 2026-2031 approved by the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors on 12/16/25
- Measure I Revenue Projections
- Update on Implementation of Early Investments (FY 2025-2026)
- Update on Procurement of vendors/grantees for 2026-2031
- SB 707 – Brown Act Overhaul
- Challenges & Opportunities

Measure I Revenue



	Total Sales Tax Collected	Interest earned	County Admin	CDTFA Admin	City of Sebastopol	Transferred to First 5 Sonoma
FY 24-25						
Q4 - April-June	\$7,692,925.85	\$1,428.32	\$252.56	\$7,261.51	\$154,641.31	\$7,532,198.79
FY 25-26						
Q1 - July-Sept	\$7,973,771.38	\$28,481.11	\$1,022.93	\$0.00	\$186,501.95	\$7,814,727.61

Implementation of Early Investments (FY 25-26)



- Perinatal Support Groups being implemented at 8 sites
- Services for families experiencing homelessness implemented – Catholic Charities, COTS
- Launched maternal wellness workshops and mobile health clinic for Latine and Indigenous parents (Botanical Bus)
- Launching this weekend a pilot lactation train-the-trainer program in Spanish to equip partners, grandmothers, and aunts to support breastfeeding parents
- Launched the Early Relational Health Consortium, a multisector group of healthcare and social service advocates focused on systems collaboration for families 0-3
- Maternal Health Assessment including focus groups, interviews, and a community survey is underway
- Launching next month legal and HR trainings for perinatal advocates and employers around perinatal mood disorder and lactation accommodations

Implementation of Early Investments (FY 25-26)



- Tuition scholarships and internships support advanced for mental health clinicians
- Facilities Landscape Assessment and grant cycle moving forward (partnership with Low Income Investment Fund)
- Analysis and model for Family Scholarships underway (VIVA Social Impact Partners)
- Analysis and model for provider compensation underway (UC Berkeley – CSCCE/Clarity)
- Financial supports to mentoring sites for ECE Apprentices in place
- First 5 Sonoma evaluation partner procured (Clarity)

Procurement of Grantees & Vendors 2026-2031



- Plan under development
- RFPs/RFQs for multi-year contracts starting FY 26-27 will be released March-May 2026
- RFPs/RFQs for multi-year contracts starting FY 27-28 will be released late 2026/early 2027
- Community visioning, partner meet and greets, and participatory grant making will be implemented to engage the community in design and ensure alignment

SB 707 (Durazo) – Brown Act Overhaul



- AB 2449 sunsetted January 1, 2026 – pandemic era flexibility to keep government moving, prevent spread of COVID-19
- SB 707 to continue certain aspects of AB 2449 - strike balance between intent of Brown Act (transparency in government) with flexibility and public participation
- Advisory bodies treated differently than policy-making public entities
- Full implementation by July 1, 2026
- First 5 will get guidance from our counsel and bring back to CAC

Challenges & Opportunities



Challenges

- Federal government restrictions on child care funding threatens to significantly destabilize local system and may require contingency planning and funding
- Many cross sector collaboratives and innovative solutions happening in response to MediCal CalAIM but concerns re: MediCal changes and the need for wraparound care coordination for families that Measure I can help build upon

Opportunities

- Measure O (County Behavioral Health) oversight members interested in collaboration with Measure I to leverage funding to maximize impact for young children and women in the perinatal period
- New housing developments considering including space for child care centers

We appreciate your comments!



02:00

Overview of Federal Actions Affecting California Child Care Funding

Funding Threat: Timeline



HHS tweet/video
announcing freezing
CCDF funds in MN
and alleges
widespread fraud

HHS quoted in media
that they are freezing
\$10B in child care
funds and closing
Biden “loophole”

White House
establishes new
DOJ Division for
National Fraud
Enforcement

— 12/30 ————— 1/5 ————— 1/6 ————— 1/8 ————— 1/9 —————

HHS released the Notice of
Proposed Rulemaking to
roll back the 2024 CCDF
final rule, which ensured
timely enrollment payments
and set a 7% cap on parent
copayments

HHS formally
issued notices
about restricting
federal child care
funds to CA, CO, IL,
MN, NY

CA, CO, IL, MN,
NY file suit in
federal court,
arguing the freeze
is unlawful and
exceeds
executive
authority

U.S. District Judge
issued a temporary
restraining order
(14 days)
preventing the
federal government
from enforcing the
funding freeze while
the lawsuit
proceeds

U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services (HHS)

Funding Threat: Block Grants & Impact



		<i>Child care portion</i>	
Federal Block Grants	CA	CA	Sonoma
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) : As it relates to child care, this funds Stage 1-3 child care for those on CalWORKS so that they can go to work, school, or training.	3.7 billion (25-26)	2.3 billion* FY 25-26 Federal portion only for children 0-12 yrs Source: LAO enacted budget 25-26	~ \$50M total ~ \$15.7 of this is federal (25-26) - Missing Stage 1 child care - \$50M figure includes CA General Fund money ~70% - Serves children 0-12 years Source: CDSS 12/29/25 via public records request by VIVA
Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF): Primary federal funding source for child care. This also funds quality improvement, and workforce investments administered through state and county systems.	1.1 billion (2025)		
Social Services Block Grant (SSBG): States have broad authority to use towards a variety of social services programs.	190 million (25-26)	32 million (25-26)	unknown

* Includes: Stage 2 & 3; Alternative payment; General Child Care; Bridge; Migrant; Severe Disabilities

Funding Threat: HHS Letter to CA



What did letters to the different states say?

According to HHS, the funding freeze was due to “serious concerns about widespread fraud and misuse of taxpayer dollars” and “concerns that these benefits intended for American citizens and lawful residents may have been improperly provided to individuals who are not eligible under federal law.”

What did letters state was required to end the funding freeze?

- **Multi-year lookback:** HHS required California to provide data going back to federal fiscal year 2021-current.
- **Individual-level documentation:** Requests included provider payment records, child-level attendance or enrollment data, and family eligibility determinations tied to specific payments across those years.
- **System-wide scope:** The request was not sample-based. It applied across CCDF, TANF child care, and SSBG, requiring California to reconstruct historical spending and controls statewide.

Data deadline provided to end freeze: January 20, 2026 (14 days)

What Does This Mean for CAC?



The ECE Strategies recommended by CAC and adopted by the First 5 Sonoma County Commission largely “wrap around” and expand the ECE existing system – quality efforts, affordability, and compensation. If the system is heavily impacted, it would likely require discussing the strategies currently adopted and funding allocated.

If the lawsuit is unsuccessful, subsidy provider agencies and providers themselves will be heavily burdened by data requests and funding may be unstable. Support may be requested.

Regardless of the result of the lawsuit, providers may be less willing to provide subsidized care because it may be viewed as risky.

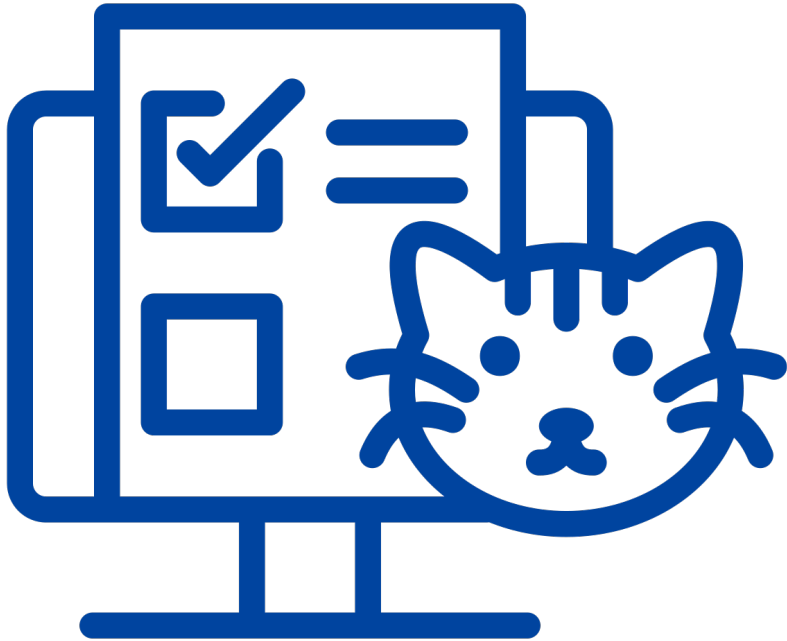
Families may be less willing to accept subsidized care due to fear of data being collected.

We appreciate your comments!



02:00

CAC Priorities for 2026: Discussion



**The Strategic Plan is
Adopted – What Now?**

Reminder: CAC Role



What does Measure I say?

An advisory body to provide recommendations related to:

- The Child Care and Children's Health Program Plan and Budget (Strategic Plan)
- Initiatives to improve the quality and capacity-building of service providers
- Initiatives to evaluate and improve access to programs
- Strategies to enhance community engagement in the planning and implementation of services



What does this really mean?

CAC Role Simplified



Provide advisory-level support, guidance, and thought partnership to First 5 Sonoma County staff as it administers Measure I funding.



For example,

- Do you want to hear about and discuss implementation progress on a regular basis?
- Are you interested in being apprised of evaluation plans and providing your thoughts?
- Do you want time to share what *you are hearing and learning from the community* as it relates to Measure I?

CAC: Composition of Members



The Community Advisory Council was intentionally structured to bring multiple lived and professional perspectives together to inform Measure I implementation

Who is represented on the CAC?

Organized by lens:

1. Child care workforce lens
2. Parent and family lens
3. Child care system administration lens
4. Health and mental health systems lens

CAC: Composition of Members

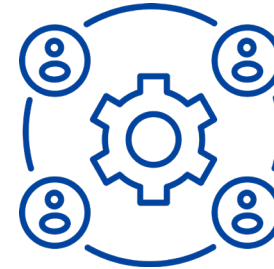


Round Robin Discussion

1. What do you think is most important for the CAC to focus on over the next 6 months?
2. What kinds of conversations would feel most worth your time?
3. What would you want First 5 staff to make CAC members aware of? Or, bring to CAC for discussion?

Parent and family lens

Child care system
administration lens



Child care workforce lens

Health and mental
health systems lens

No single seat sees the whole system. The strength of the CAC is holding those differences together.

We appreciate your comments!



02:00



Next Community Advisory Council Meeting:
February 26, 2026
3:00-5:00 pm

LOCATION:
120 Stony Point Rd., Suite 155, Santa Rosa