

**Human Services Coordinating Council  
September 2021**

**Department of Child, Family and Adult Services  
Michelle Callejas, Director**

- CPS Emergency Response still dealing with high number of investigations. In August, social workers received an average of 16 new investigations per month, 6 higher than the optimum number by the Child Welfare League of America (CWLA). We filled the new positions approved in June and several are going through cohort training. We are hoping they can start receiving a small number of investigations soon, which will help alleviate workload.
- CPS is helping El Dorado County with investigations and monthly visits, as they are overwhelmed with the impacts of the Caldor fire. We are also tracking Sacramento County foster children placed in areas that have evacuated due to various fires to ensure they are in a safe place. Our team also reports this information to CDSS. Thus far, APS has not received requests for assistance.
- DCFAS is hosting the next round of Implicit Bias training, which is targeting supervisory classifications across several child and family serving systems and agencies. The training will take place on November 9.
- DCFAS is working hard to recruit social workers across the department. Counties statewide are struggling to fill positions, as there are simply not enough to fill the need. A DCFAS team will attend 6 career fairs over the next two months.
- Changes to APS included in the final state budget will require APS to respond to allegations of abuse/neglect on older adults 60+ rather than 65+. Estimates indicate there could be over 500 new investigations per month. We do not know when CDSS will allocate the funding but there is only \$70 million statewide, so it may not be enough to meet demand.
- The Child Protective Systems Oversight Committee will present its Annual Report to the Board of Supervisors on November 2, 2021. DCFAS will also provide a response to the report.

## **FIRST 5 SACRAMENTO COMMISSION HSCC Update**

**September 2021**

### **HIGHLIGHTS OF LAST COMMISSION MEETING – August 2, 2021**

- Approval of Final Budget and 10-Year Financial Plan for FY 21/22
- Presentation: Community Connections Grant Wrap-up
- Presentation: Demonstrating Impact through Tableau Dashboards

### **UPCOMING COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA- October 4, 2021**

- Approval of Updated 2021-2024 Implementation Plan
- Approval of Community Engagement Stipend Policy
- Presentation: First 5 Association Strategic Plan

### **FIRST 5 SACRAMENTO GENERAL UPDATES**

#### **Afghan Refugee Outreach**

Given the influx of Afghan refugees into the Sacramento region, First 5 staff are reaching out to the resettlement agencies and support agencies to find ways in which we can assist those who are pregnant or have young children. We are creating a one-page info sheet with parenting tips and local resources in multiple languages. Additionally, we are working to bring a resettlement agency representative to our Quarterly Contractor Meeting to provide training to our 50+ funded partners.

#### **Bi-lingual Book Distribution**

With an investment from First 5 California, we distributed over 10,000 high-quality, bilingual books last month. Fifteen community agencies that serve children from low-income families picked up boxes of the books.

#### **Rivercats Partnership**

We're finally moving forward with a partnership with the River Cats, after it was put on hold during the pandemic. Much like our collaboration with the Sacramento Kings a couple of years ago, this small contract will allow us to get our message out about the importance of the first 5 years and to promote First 5 Sacramento. Over the next 10 months, we will have:



- Signage logo and tagline (Investing in our kids, Investing in our future) on all the changing stations in mens, womens and family restrooms
- Booster seat logo signage
- Sunday pre-game live announcement
- Concourse sign logo and tagline (You are your child's first teacher)
- 6 resource tabling events at games
- 2 :15 second live read announcements during each game
- 2 Dinger appearances
- Social media posts
- 70 complimentary tickets to distribute to F5 families
- Corporate sponsor networking events

### **Home Visiting Coordination Collaborative (HVCC) Update**

The Commission-led countywide Home Visiting Coordination Collaborative (HVCC) is gaining strength with additional providers joining our bi-monthly meetings, and now through intentional, targeted outreach, we will be adding parents to the Collaborative. We recognize that community voice is critical to successfully identifying and eliminating barriers that families face in accessing home visiting and other support services. In addition, the Collaborative will plan a parent leadership training later this year.

### **Health Outcomes from Positive Experiences (HOPE) Update**

In May, First 5 convened over 80 community partners for an overview of Healthy Outcomes from Positive Experiences, otherwise known as (HOPE), which was hosted by the Tufts Medical Center. The HOPE framework includes four building blocks that mitigate the impact of trauma in early childhood. It's an asset based approach to building resilience in families by creating positive interactions. We're working with Tufts to convene 3 to 4 sector-specific trainings this fall for our partners in the health, early learning, family support and child welfare fields.

## **Safe Sleep Baby 2.0**

The Commission has been funding Safe Sleep Baby (SSB) since 2014 to educate the community and address the disparity in infant sleep related deaths, particularly in the African American community. In late 2020, Commission staff partnered with the Sacramento County Department of Child, Family, and Adult Services (DCFAS), the Child Abuse Prevention Council of Sacramento (CAPC), and the Black Child Legacy Campaign (BCLC) on a joint proposal to the California State Department of Social Services, Office of Child Abuse and Prevention (OCAP). The proposal, which requests \$250,000 per year for two years, is an expansion of the current SSB program. SSB 2.0 will focus on systems changes within DCFAS, increase access to services for vulnerable communities, and will provide opportunities for other communities to replicate our work.

## **Office Remodel**

The Building Lease Committee is working feverishly to transition into the new lease. The new lease approved by the Commission in May reduces the square footage by 30% and eliminates 8 offices or workspaces. A detailed timeline of tasks was put together and included surplus and donation of office furniture, recycling, scanning, computer/IT asset management, construction schedule, carpet and paint, and more. We aren't in the building yet, but should be within a few weeks. I'm happy to report that several funded partners and other nonprofits made appointments with County Surplus to pick up desks, chairs, books shelves and filing cabinets. It made us feel good to know that the First 5 office furniture will continue to be used by family serving agencies.

## **Unequal Birth Public Awareness Campaign Update**

We just wrapped up a six month Unequal Birth public awareness campaign, which performed very strongly, surpassing industry benchmarks across the board. The campaign, which brings awareness to the general public about racism as the root cause of birth inequities in Sacramento, will continue into the new strategic plan period and is currently being audited through a partnership with Her Health First and RSE. A refreshed campaign will be highlighted later this year.

## **Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) Public Awareness Campaign**

First 5 partnered with SCOE on the development and execution of an ACEs Public Awareness Campaign. We used the Help Me Grow (HMG) platform as the hub to drive awareness about ACEs, with a refreshed website that now includes a dedicated ACEs Aware tab. Additionally, the website was translated into Spanish. Currently, we're working on a Spanish digital campaign to create awareness about the new Spanish language HMG/ACEs website.