

**Human Services Coordinating Council
Agency Director's Report
May 2022**

**FIRST 5 SACRAMENTO COMMISSION
HSCC Update
May 2022**

HIGHLIGHTS OF LAST COMMISSION MEETING – May 2, 2022

- Approve FY22/23 Recommended Budget and 10-Year Financial Plan
- Racial Equity in Strategic Planning Discussion- Targeted Universalism
- Approval of 2024 Strategic Plan Decision Points:
 - Consultant Services Contract
 - Spending Plan
- Approve Proposal to First 5 CA for Refugee Support
- Approval of ARPA Funding to Implement Building Strong Families Project
- Approval of CalWORKs Home Visiting Revenue Agreement with DHA and Expenditure Contract with CAPC for the Family Support Initiative
- Public Hearing: First 5 CA Annual Report for FY21/22

FIRST 5 SACRAMENTO GENERAL UPDATES

Strategic Planning Update

Commissioners have begun discussions around Strategic Planning for the 2024 funding cycle. This strategic planning process will differ from those previously and aims to incorporate a Racial Equity framework for decision making. At the May Commission meeting, a consultant will be hired and the \$44.6 Million spending plan will be approved. Over the summer, staff will be busy collecting community input/parent voice to strengthen our understanding of child & family assets and needs.

Maternal Mental Health Collaborative

In the summer of 2021, the Sacramento Maternal Mental Health Collaborative secured a \$10,000 grant from Postpartum Support International and a \$10,000 grant from Anthem Blue Cross to plan and implement a public awareness campaign around maternal mental health. Through community surveys and focus groups, the *Be Mom Aware* campaign was developed and launched in March 2022. The campaign focuses on the Latina and African American community, aims to decrease stigma, provides a space for families to learn about mental health, and shares a variety of resources. A care connector on the www.bemomaware.com website offers an interactive process to help moms find services through her health plan. In addition, the Collaborative is training providers to increase their awareness,

ability to engage in discussion on mental health, and help their clients navigate the website.

New Commissioner Update

Staff have been informed that there are two applicants for the Commission seat vacated by Kathy Kossick when she retired last December. Both applicants are former Community Connections Grant recipients and would be excellent representatives of parent voice/parent leadership. The Clerk of the Board will be setting up interviews with the Supervisors' Chiefs of Staff soon and we should know who will be appointed to the seat within a month. It's our hope that the new Alternate Commissioner will join us for the August meeting.

Racial Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (REDI)

A joint meeting of the Systems Optimization and Sustainability (SOS) Committee and the Advisory Committee was held on March 30th to more deeply explore the results of the REDI + Cultural Responsiveness (REDI+CR) survey conducted last winter. Baseline findings and recommendations were discussed in small group breakouts where members identified positive impressions and areas where there are opportunities to grow our work. RJA provided staff with a summary of the different themes that came up during the discussions, outlined opportunities for continued engagement and identified actionable steps for addressing the emerging themes. Noted areas of focus included our purpose and vision, communication infrastructure, roles and responsibilities for commissioners, committees and staff, and ongoing capacity building as related to our REDI+CR work.

In the upcoming months, staff and our consultants, Racial Justice Advocates, will continue to meet to further actualize recommendations, provide opportunity for committee member review and plan to assess individual capacities to leverage and support the REDI+CR work. Lastly, the willingness and commitment of commissioners, advisory committee members and staff to support this work has been demonstrated throughout this process and was highlighted as exemplary.

Afghan Refugee Services

First 5 Sacramento continues our partnerships with local agencies and our contracted partners to connect refugees with young children to family support services. First 5 CA has released an RFA for support services that county Commissions are allowed to apply for. First 5 Sac will apply for funding, which would be distributed to local refugee support agencies. On April 20, we held a community listening session to help inform the development of our proposal. Fifteen agencies joined the session and several have expressed an interest in partnering with First 5 to provide services locally.

ARPA Funding Secured- Building Strong Families

First 5 partnered with the Department of Child, Family and Adult Services (DCFAS) to request American Rescue Plan Act funding to implement a new program titled Building Strong Families. Last month, the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors approved funding in the amount of \$3.9 million over the next 2.5 years. First 5 and DCFAS will contract with community based agencies to hire Family Support Navigators. The Navigators will connect stressed families to critical services such as home visiting, health and mental health services, transportation, housing and basic needs, with a goal of building stronger families in the geographic locations hardest hit by Covid.