

**Human Services Coordinating Council Agency Report
April 2021**

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

- The CPS Cultural Broker Program celebrated a milestone of receiving 300 referrals to the program. Cultural Brokers are offered to African American families and they bridge the divides that can exist due to distrust of the child welfare system. They elevate the voice of the family to ensure they are included in all decision-making and they help social workers better understand cultural issues that can be at play. The goal of implementing the program was to promote better engagement with African American families, reduce entries of African American children into foster care and reduce the amount of time African American children stay in the child welfare system. Clients who have received Cultural Broker services have shown positive outcomes in the protective factors associated with child safety and family stability, and report having an improved perception of CPS. We have also seen a slight reduction of African American entries and number of African American youth in foster care.
- Dine at Home Sacramento
 - The Board of Supervisors extended the Dine at Home Sacramento meals program to the end of April 2021 or until funding is exhausted. The program is winding down but has been a success in ensuring vulnerable older adults received meals while isolating at home due to the pandemic.
 - To date, the program as delivered 272,860 meals to 1020 older adults and generated over \$6.8 million in revenue for the 15 participating restaurants. DCFAS is grateful for the partnership with Area 4 Agency on Aging to provide this program.
 - SAS staff contacted 290 Dine at Home Sacramento recipients to ask if they had received vaccinations and/or if they needed one. The team provided information about vaccination sites and additional assistance for about 25 individuals to ensure they received one.

The IHSS Public Authority opened the lobby on March 31 for walk-in customers seeking to become In-Home care providers. The team is also offering in-person Orientation sessions for those unable to complete them virtually. Orientation sessions will be limited to 10 to 15 people.

**Department of Health Services – Human Services Coordinating Council
Update
April 2021**

Novel Coronavirus – Coronavirus case transmission in Sacramento County is still classified as “Substantial” and in the red tier by the California Department of Public Health. Our case rate has varied between 7.0 and 8.0 per 100,000 population in the last week. It will need to drop to 3.9 before we can move into the even less restrictive Orange Tier. However, once the State achieves 4 million vaccinations in the Healthy Places Index lowest quartile, the target will change to a more easily reachable 5.9 per 100,000. The 4 million mark is expected to be reached by April 10.

Coronavirus Vaccinations – Our allocations of COVID-19 vaccine have been rising significantly. The week of April 5 should see a total of 33,300 first doses, a 62% increase in two weeks. Community outreach and partnerships with CBO’s and community providers has resulted in a significant increase in the number of vaccinations provided to persons living in vulnerable communities, including unhoused persons.

COVID-19 Vaccinations at Correctional Facilities – Good progress has been made in vaccinating inmates. As of March 31, 701 have been fully vaccinated, mostly from the Janssen vaccine. The vaccinations requiring a second dose are problematic and only 93 have been completed with two doses. 1,058 inmates have declined vaccination.

Laura’s Law/Assisted Mental Health Treatment – The issue will be heard by the Mental Health Services Act Steering committee at their meeting on April 15. A community forum will be held on the issue during the week of April 19. It will be composed of diverse community members and allow the opportunity for community input and questions.

911 Alternative Project – Following the Board’s action on March 30, DHS is developing plans and working with the State Department of Health Care Services regarding the funding for crisis response services. There is some uncertainty regarding the effective date of federal funding and whether startup costs in advance of the effective date can be allowed. This information must be resolved in order for us to develop a firm schedule for the program. DGS will seek community input and set meetings with law enforcement regarding services.

Jim Hunt
Acting Director, Department of Health Services

**FIRST 5 SACRAMENTO COMMISSION
HSCC Meeting Update**

April 2021

HIGHLIGHTS OF LAST COMMISSION MEETING – March 1, 2021

- Approval of Funding Recommendations for Programs Under the Results of Perinatal Conditions/ Infant Death, Effective Parenting and Data Management System
- Approval of 2021 Policy Platform
- Annual Review of First 5 2021-2024 Strategic Plan

UPCOMING COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA- May 3, 2021

- Approval of Funding Recommendations for Evaluation Services and RAACD Steering Committee Support
- Approval of Lease Agreement 2021-2027
- Approval of CalWORKs Revenue and Contracting Authority- Home Visiting
- Approval of Recommended Budget and 10-Year Financial Plan for FY 21/22
- Presentation: Birth & Beyond Evaluation Report for FY 19/20

GENERAL UPDATES

First 5 Sacramento's Resolution on Racial Equity and Social Justice

In February, the Commission approved a Resolution on Racial Equity and Social Justice. Subsequently, the Systems Optimization and Sustainability Committee met to develop a Racial Equity Work Plan that will outline steps needed to reach the goals outlined in the Resolution. The committee has prioritized four of the 9 "commitments" identified in the plan to begin working on this year, including:

- Providing ongoing training to the Commission, committees, funded partners and staff on implicit bias and developing an anti-racist framework
- Providing opportunity for community members of color to become a voice within our organization through education, training and internship opportunities, creating a pathway to leadership that promotes diversity and equity in decision making for children
- Continually monitoring for the presence of disparities through data collection and evaluation, using equity to guide our research for equal outcomes
- Prioritizing the investment of promoting racial equity to address social determinants of health, including but not limited to continued support for

Frist 5 Sacramento funded programs that reduce African American child deaths

COVID-19 Vaccine for Childcare Providers

With the Governor's announced last month that the state will set aside 10% of vaccine doses for K-12 educators and child care workers, First 5 has been partnering with the County Public Health Department, Child Action and Sacramento County Office of Education to develop and disseminate vaccine messages to the early care field. The First 5 Association's statewide workgroup developed a vaccine fact sheet specifically for childcare providers. We have localized it for Sacramento County and are actively assisting in the recruitment of providers to participate in vaccine clinics. Our goal is to get as many childcare providers vaccinated as possible over the next several months.

2021-2024 Strategic Plan Update

On May 3, the Commission will award the final contracts for services to be implemented in the next Strategic Plan (FY21/22-23/24). We are pleased to note that several agencies who had competed for funds in prior RFP processes joined forces to submit collaborative proposals this time around. Our major investments continue to be in support of Birth & Beyond FRCs (approximately 40% of available funds), school readiness efforts through 9 school districts and the County Office of Education (approximately 35% of available funds) and our efforts to reduce African American child death (approximately 10% of available funds). In addition, we will continue to support breastfeeding services and improvements to the systems that serve children and families.

New Vape Tax

A Vape Tax has officially been introduced, as SB 395 (Caballero), with First 5 receiving our equivalency of 15% of any revenue generated through the new tax. Staff will be reaching out to Assemblymember Cooper and Senator Pan to be potential co-authors for the bill. This backfill of 15% is critical to ensuring a further decline in revenue.

First 5 Advocacy Day at the Capitol (Virtual)

Planning is underway for the First 5 Association's second virtual Advocacy Day on April 27. Staff and Commissioners will meet with each of our legislators via zoom, rather than in-person. Additionally, we are planning for the Dia de Los Libros virtual book read on April 30.

Commission Seat Open

Commissioner Terrie Porter resigned her seat on the Commission as a result of her job move to Los Angeles. This leaves an open seat that will serve as Bruce Wagstaff's alternate. According to bylaws, the seat must be filled by a County employee working in a leadership position within Social Services. The goal is to have a replacement by the May 2021 meeting.