

**FIRST 5 SACRAMENTO COMMISSION
HSCC Update**

March 2021

HIGHLIGHTS OF UPCOMING 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
- PH: Approval of Recommended Budget and 10-Year Financial Plan for FY 21/22

GENERAL UPDATES

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

Last month, the Commission approved a Resolution on Racial Equity and Social Justice. This month, we will work through our Systems Optimization and Sustainability Committee and the First 5 Advisory Committee to develop a Racial Equity Work Plan to outline steps needed to reach the goals outlined in the Resolution. The committees have 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 First 5 Sacramento funded programs that reduce African American child deaths

2021-2024 Strategic Plan Update

On March 1, First 5 awarded the final contracts for direct 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.

COVID-19 Vaccine for Childcare Providers

The Governor announced that starting in March, the state will set aside 10% of vaccine doses for K-12 educators and child care workers. A plan was then released, but it primarily speaks to the K-12 setting. F5A and several key child care partners, including First 5 California, sent a letter to the Administration regarding the need to utilize the existing collaborative local child care infrastructure for vaccine outreach and distribution.

First 5 staff continues working with Sacramento County's Public Health Department on the development of local vaccine messaging and outreach. Teachers and childcare workers are now eligible to receive the vaccine. The First 5 Association's statewide workgroup developed a vaccine fact sheet specifically for childcare providers. We have localized it for Sacramento County with our partners County Public Health, Child Action, Inc. and SCOE.

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 Assembly member 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.

Department of Health Services – HSCC Update March 2021

Novel Coronavirus – Regrettably, this past week saw Sacramento County pass the 1,500 level of fatalities from the virus. However, coronavirus cases continue to drop in Sacramento County and throughout the country. Our case rate has dropped to 8.2 as of March 8. Together with reductions in test positivity, we are almost at the point where we can return to the less restrictive red tier.

Coronavirus Vaccinations – We have redoubled our efforts to reach out to vulnerable communities. The addition of the Janssen vaccine from John & Johnson gives us increased capacity this week, but we won't see another shipment from that source for another two weeks. Further limiting our efforts is a reduction in total vaccines from Pfizer and Moderna. The bottom line is that Sacramento's share of statewide allocations has dropped 43% in the last four weeks. We are in communication with the CDPH Director and Blue Shield's leadership attempting to rectify the issue.

COVID-19 Vaccinations at Correctional Facilities - We are in the beginning phases of new vaccination criteria, including all inmates by housing unit. Public Health will prioritize inmates and homeless for the new Johnson & Johnson vaccine which only requires one vaccination. A first allocation of the new vaccine should arrive during the week of March 8. This will greatly assist our efforts.

Health Authority – An organizational meeting will be held March 10 to adopt bylaws and set a plan in motion to operationalize the Authority.

Laura's Law/Assisted Mental Health Treatment – Two public forums will be held on March 15 and 16. We are widely disseminating the announcement so we get the broadest possible spectrum of public input before taking this item to the Board for a decision. The County must either specifically make a decision to opt in or out. If no decision is made, the state will automatically require the County to opt in.

911 Alternative Project – Staff is actively engaged in developing the three proposals ordered by the Board of Supervisors. RI International, a federally funded and experienced consultant, is assisting in estimating call volume and determining needed staffing to provide appropriate coverage. We have met with the Citrus Heights police chief who represents all the city chiefs. There do not appear to be any insurmountable issues. It is likely that individual MOU's will be needed for each law enforcement jurisdiction to formalize the agreements we reach.