

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

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

- Dine at Home Sacramento Meals Program
 - The Dine at Home Sacramento meals program ended April 30, 2021. Since starting June 29, 2020, almost 300,000 meals were provided to 1020 older adults who were isolating at home due to COVID-19. The program generated over \$7.2m in revenue for the 15 participating restaurants. The restaurants expressed great appreciation for the program and a few stated it saved their businesses and allowed them to not only keep their employees, but hire a few new ones.
 - Over the past few months, restaurants distributed flyers containing information about other food/meal resources in Sacramento, including the CalFresh program. DCFAS staff assisted some older adults with completing the applications to receive benefits. Area 4 Agency on Aging (A4AA) assessed the remaining 547 participants to determine level of food insecurity and means to obtain nutritional meals. Of those, A4AA assessed 180 as having high and very high levels of food insecurity. A4AA worked with Meals on Wheels by ACC (MOW by ACC) to transition the 180 over to their program. MOW by ACC could not absorb all 180, but with additional DCFAS funding, they entered into contracts with local restaurants to prepare and deliver meals to those recipients.
 - DCFAS is grateful for the partnership with Area 4 Agency on Aging to provide this program and to MOW by ACC for continuing to serve the remaining participants.
- DCFAS released a Letter of Interest/Statement of Qualifications to recruit two additional Cultural Brokers to help recruit and support African American Resource Parents, relatives and Non-Related Extended Family Members.
- DCFAS presented the latest CPS report that breaks down data by race/ethnicity to the Juvenile Court's Dependency Standing Committee. While there have been some improvements over the past seven years, African American children are still disproportionately represented at various points and have disparate outcomes as compared to other groups. DCFAS is committed to continue efforts to reduce disproportionality and disparities.
- DCFAS is planning to offer Implicit Bias training to the next round of DCFAS employees. The first round of training targeted leadership and management and DCFAS invited several other departments and agencies to send their leadership teams as well. This next round will focus on supervisory level staff and DCFAS will extend the opportunity to others.

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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 dropped from 9.7 to 7.6 per 100,000 population in the last two weeks. It will need to drop to 5.9 and stay there for two weeks before we can move into the even less restrictive Orange Tier.

Coronavirus Vaccinations – The suspension of the Janssen vaccine caused disruption in vaccination of the homeless and incarcerated persons. There are also some small providers who cancelled appointments while waiting for the reauthorization of the one-shot vaccine. We are ramping up our marketing and outreach campaigns to encourage vaccination and reach more people, especially in our most at-risk communities.

Laura’s Law/Assisted Mental Health Treatment – A community forum on the issue on April 19 was very well received. It gave us enough additional feedback to prepare a recommendation and submit it to the Board of Supervisors. It will be heard on May 18.

911 Alternative Project – One of the overarching questions is whether to implement prior to the April 1, 2022 effective date for enhanced funding for Medi-Cal beneficiaries. We are advocating with DHCS and federal legislators regarding flexibility around that issue.

At a DHCS listening session on April 28, Director Will Lightbourne said that his department will work that issue this fall. A good number of “listeners” expressed delight at the funding, but were very concerned, as are we, about the non-supplantation clause. Many counties and community based organizations have already, or will soon, implement crisis response programs.

CalAIM Behavioral Health Kaiser Carve-In – No change here. We have again met with Kaiser Permanente and Solano County Behavioral Health executives to discuss and plan for the transfer of 11,000 seriously mentally ill patients from Kaiser to the two counties. We have not been informed by DHCS about what additional funding may be available. At this time, the transfer is still scheduled to occur on January 1, 2022.

Encampments – DHS is working with the City of Sacramento to clean up encampment sites. Dr. Kasirye has agreed to assess encampments, in conjunction with EMD, for public health issues and order removal if significant health hazards exist. The existing health order does not need to be amended for this to happen.

Jim Hunt
Acting Director, Department of Health Services

FIRST 5 SACRAMENTO COMMISSION HSCC Meeting Update

May 2021

CA State Budget Update - Impacts for Children & Families

We anticipate the release of the May Revision to the Governor's proposed FY 2021-22 budget this month. Staff continues to monitor the following activity:

- The disbursement of the \$300 million in Federal funds for child care funding
- SB 395 Vape Tax with First 5 receiving our equivalency of 15%
- Increased funding to support California's prevention work under the Family First Prevention Service Act to build locally driven services and support for children at risk of entering foster care
- Augmentation to the Emergency Child Care Bridge Program for Foster Children
- The ECE Coalition Letter ask for a comprehensive child care family focused plan (access, reimbursement structure, facilities improvements and professional development).

California Department of Social Services (CDSS) has secured \$35 million in state funds to distribute food and diaper boxes to food banks. Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services will receive 39,406 food boxes and 4,512 diaper boxes.

American Rescue Plan and Child Tax Credit Interview

Spearheaded and coordinated by First 5 staff, Congresswomen Doris Matsui, the Children's Defense Fund and Sacramento Children's Home, [a Facebook live conversation](#) discussed the American Rescue Plan Child Tax Credit Expansion. David Baker, CEO of Sacramento Children's Home, highlighted how this expanded credit will help the families they serve in their crisis nurseries and family resource centers. The IRS is still working on the distribution details and expects periodic payments through 2021. This is a great example of First 5's involvement in crafting meaningful conversations with our elected officials and highlighting the great work of our partners.

2021 First 5 Association Advocacy Day

The second virtual Advocacy Day took place on April 27 and we had the opportunity to meet with staff from Assembly members Cooper and Cooley's offices. We also met virtually with Asm. McCarty and Senator Dr. Pan. Thank you to SOS Committee members Donna Sneeringer and Pooja Mittal who joined these meetings to share our local priorities.

Dia de Los Libros Event

On April 30th, the First 5 Association hosted a Dia de Los Libros event that was broadcast live on [Facebook](#) throughout the state. Featured guests included the First Partner, Jennifer

Siebel Newsom, reading a bi-lingual book, Dr. Nadine Burke Harris, the State's Surgeon General, with a message on trauma informed care, and teen star Hudson Yang from the show Fresh Off the Boat, reading a book with his father. Sacramento child care provider, Eresvey Rivera with ABC Montessori Preschool and Childcare Home, participated in a Spanish language sing-along with 12 children. This opportunity to be part of the statewide event was made possible in partnership with Child Action, Inc.

FIRST 5 SACRAMENTO GENERAL UPDATES

Racial Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (REDI) Update

Staff is working on the REDI action plan and has presented the draft document to the Advisory Committee. The SOS committee will further develop the action plan at their May meeting and we will report back to the Commission. Additionally, we are working with a UC Davis student intern to support our REDI efforts during the action plan development.

Home Visiting Coordination Collaborative (HVCC) Update

First 5 Sacramento conducted an environmental scan of home visiting and family support service programs for the purpose of creating a coordinated system of care. The survey also assessed the need for training and support for critical topics, including ACEs, REDI and community engagement. Also, in collaboration with the four other funding agencies, the HVCC developed a referral flowchart to help navigate referrals to programs that best meet the needs of the family.

Community Resilience/Leadership Initiative

In partnership with Lead4Tomorrow and First 5 Sacramento, HealthNet has launched a two phase grant Community Resilience Leadership Initiative. The first phase is designed to help strengthen and build the capacity of parents and caregivers to address the many challenges of raising their families. The second phase is to support parents and caregivers who wish to contribute more directly to the issues facing their communities. A wide range of potential partner and community-based organizations have been identified. This includes linking to First 5s, home visitation programs, Family Resource Centers, resiliency clinics, schools, among other organizations.

COVID-19 Vaccine Update

First 5 staff continue to promote SCOE's COVID vaccine clinics established to serve educators, childcare providers and other direct service providers who are in contact with families and young children, including home visitors, lactation consultants, and parenting educators. Notices have gone out to all eligible First 5 contractors with dates and locations for the clinics.