



April 22, 2021

INFORMATION ACTION

SUBJECT: CALIFORNIA HEALTH INTERVIEW SURVEY

Strategic Plan Priority Area: Child Health

Goal: All children thrive by achieving optimal health prenatal through age 5.

RECOMMENDATION

First 5 California (F5CA) staff recommends the Commission approve funding of \$1,700,000 to continue fiscal support of the California Health Interview Survey (CHIS) over a two-year period.

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

This action item requests authorization of funds up to \$1,700,000 over a two-year period to continue fiscal support of the California Health Interview Survey (CHIS). The two-year period will begin when the Department of General Services approves the agreement, coinciding approximately with fiscal years 2021–22 and 2022–23. F5CA's current contract (CFF 7540) for \$1,700,000 with the University of California, Los Angeles, Center for Health Policy Research (UCLA CPHR) will end on June 30, 2021. This request continues financial support for CHIS data collection, data dissemination, analysis, and research on California's child population. F5CA has been the primary funder of the CHIS Child Questionnaire since 2001 (see Attachment A).

Supported by Statute and Strategic Plan

The California Children and Families Act, Health and Safety Code Section 130125(d) sets forth the duty that F5CA provide for independent research, including the evaluation of any relevant programs, to identify the best standards and practices for optimal early childhood development. Additionally, F5CA's Strategic Plan for 2019–24 describes these values, priorities, and supportive strategies:

- **Values and Guiding Principles statement: Impact:** First 5 California strives to create positive impacts and outcomes through investments based on scientific

research and best practices, employing evaluation and data to monitor and assess the effectiveness of its activities.

- **Priority Area I. Child Health: Goal:** All children thrive by achieving optimal health prenatal through age 5.
- **Supportive Strategies, I.C. Policy and Systems: Research and Evaluation:** Support research, evaluation, and data collection capacity. Communicate findings to support policy, practice, and equitable access to the appropriate services, programs, and resources necessary to improve the health and well-being children prenatal through age 5 and their mothers.

Data Collection, Dissemination, and Research with F5CA Funding

Accomplishments under the current contract (CFF 7540) include ongoing data collection (6,562 child questionnaires completed during 2019 and 2020), a methodology brief on multi-mode data collection implemented by CHIS (Attachment B), a research memorandum on F5CA-funded data related to young children and families (Attachment C), and an upcoming policy brief on developmental screening of young children in California.

F5CA's long-term funding of the child questionnaire has resulted in a bibliography of more than 50 peer-reviewed publications and significant reports from 2003 to present.

F5CA funding of CHIS supports UCLA staff who design and analyze the survey as well as the costs of collection, processing, and dissemination of data about children. Approximate allocation of F5CA funds to costs for child data collection are as follows: 60% for F5CA-directed content for child-related questions, 20% for questions for adults related to those children, and 20% for oversampling to ensure sufficient sample size for completed child questionnaires.

During the new contract, child questionnaire content for the 2023–24 cycle will be proposed and reviewed by the Child Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) based upon a matrix of survey topics for multi-year data collection cycles. Child TAC Members include representatives from F5CA and the First 5 Association. Child questionnaire content for the 2021–22 data cycle was developed in the prior CHIS contract. Child questionnaire topics cycled on or off the survey during multi-year data collection cycles include:

- Childcare and preschool participation and perception
- Positive parenting activities (including parents/caregivers talking, reading, singing, going out to play with child)
- Breastfeeding practices
- Health status and conditions

- Oral health
- Developmental screening and referral
- Awareness (market penetration) of the F5CA media campaign Talk.Read.Sing.[®]
- Languages spoken at home and English proficiency of parent
- Receipt and use of *Kit for New Parents*
- Use of prescriptions and special therapy needs
- Timely medical appointments and delays in care
- Child and parent demographics, including adverse and positive childhood experiences of parents
- Adverse Childhood Experience screening

CHIS data and research are widely disseminated and freely available to the public via the Internet:

- CHIS child data are disseminated by many organizations, including Kidsdata.org (Population Reference Bureau), Children Now (California Children's Report Card), and the California Health Care Foundation.
- CHIS child data are directly accessible through the AskCHIS online query tool (ask.chis.ucla.edu), AskCHIS Neighborhood Edition query and mapping tool (askchisne.ucla.edu), and Health Profiles (healthpolicy.ucla.edu/health-profiles).
- Research publications based on CHIS data are made available online (healthpolicy.ucla.edu/chis/research).

Survey Design and Management

The UCLA Center for Health Policy Research conducts CHIS as a comprehensive population-based survey of California households on a two-year cycle. While primarily a health survey, CHIS also includes a variety of important data related to the development of children ages birth to 5. Details of the CHIS methodology are provided online at <https://healthpolicy.ucla.edu/chis/design/Pages/overview.aspx>.

CHIS is the largest state health survey in the United States. It is a collaborative project of the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, the California Department of Public Health, and the California Department of Health Care Services. Funding for CHIS comes from government agencies, such as the California Department of Public Health, California Department of Health Care Services, Covered California, the County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency, California Mental Health Services Authority, and the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, as well as several philanthropic

organizations, including The California Endowment, Kaiser Permanente, the California HealthCare Foundation, The California Wellness Foundation, and the Archstone Foundation.

The CHIS Principal Investigator is Dr. Ninez A. Ponce, Director of the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research and Professor, Department of Health Policy and Management, UCLA Fielding School of Public Health. The CHIS governance structure includes an Advisory Board and staff. The Advisory Board consists of approximately 40 members and is chaired by Dr. Mark Ghaly, Secretary of the California Health and Human Services Agency. Advisory Board members represent a broad array of organizations with a vested interest in public health, including F5CA.

SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS COMMISSION DISCUSSION AND ACTION

Since 2001, F5CA has funded CHIS to collect data related to California's diverse population of children ages birth to 5. Attachment A provides a summary of F5CA's funding history of CHIS content and deliverables. Data from CHIS are critical to First 5 county commissions, state agencies, advocates, and researchers for activities such as needs assessment, program development, public health surveillance, policymaking, and research. F5CA also uses these data to determine the coverage and effectiveness of media campaigns and messaging. F5CA's funding of CHIS supports critical data infrastructure for identifying, monitoring, and addressing the needs of young children and their families.

FISCAL DETAIL

Funding for CHIS will be drawn from the Research and Development Account (0637).

	FY 2021–22	FY 2022–23
Beginning Balance	\$22,683,277.00	\$19,819,740.00
Budgeted Expenditures	\$14,302,669.00	\$8,764,618.00
California Health Interview Survey (CHIS)	\$850,000.00	\$850,000.00
Projected Revenue	\$12,289,132.00	\$11,986,582.00
15% Reserve	\$1,687,670.00	\$1,642,288.00
Net Year End Balance	\$18,132,070.00	\$20,549,416.00

ATTACHMENTS

- A. History of First 5 California Support for CHIS since 2001
- B. CHIS Methodology Brief: Brian M. Wells, *Innovative Methods to Increase Child Interviews in the California Health Interview Survey*, UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, October 2020.
- C. Research Memorandum: *Basic Estimate Tables, CHIS 2017/2018: Tables of Selected Child Variables*