



Executive Director Report – October 19, 2023

This report provides programmatic and administrative updates about key activities staff have engaged in since the August 17, 2023, Commission Meeting. Program updates include relevant highlights, rather than a summary of all staff work, and are framed by the [Strategic Priority Areas](#) and [Theory of Change System Levers](#).

Please note: Items that will be presented as Action or Information Items during the October 19, 2023, Commission Meeting will not be included in the report below.

1. **Child Health, Education, and Care Summit: Stronger Starts – 25 Years of First 5**
Priority Area: Child Development, Child Health, Family Support
System Lever: Convener

The Summit planning is well underway. The Summit is March 25–27, 2024, and will be held at the Oakland Marriott City Center. The Call for Presentations has closed, and staff are currently reviewing proposals. Registration is expected to open mid-November. For more information, please visit the Summit webpage at [First 5 California Summit](#).

2. **First 5 Network Alignment**
Priority Area: Child Health, Child Development, Family Support
System Lever: Convener

Staff are continuing to participate in a series of meetings to support First 5 California (F5CA) and the First 5 Association of California to uplift and better clarify the role of the First 5 Network and how the two entities will work together to support a state and local early childhood systems change structure. An outside consultant has been helping to plan and facilitate these meetings and make recommendations about next steps.

This has allowed for strengthened communication with leadership teams. As part of this effort, the First 5 Network will be working on a F5CA Summit presentation on the Race, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion work that has been a collaborative process between the two organizations for the last several years.

3. **Early Childhood Behavioral Health**
Priority Area: Child Health, Child Development
System Lever: Convener

In April 2023, the Commission approved up to \$10 million dollars over 3 years from the Education, and Research and Development Fund accounts to provide technical

assistance and learning collaboratives in support of the Children's Youth Behavioral Health Initiative. Planning and initial program development conversations have begun with stakeholders and partner agencies to determine the best use of the investment.

F5CA is collaborating with the California Department of Health Care Services and their grantees to underscore the importance of investing in the 0–5 population. F5CA participated in their Round 1 Grantee Kick-off Planning meeting in early October 2023.

4. **Public Policy**

Priority Area: Child Development, Child Health, Family Support

Lever: Catalyst, Convener

F5CA's Governmental Affairs Office staff have developed a strong relationship with the Office of Community Partnerships and Strategic Communications, under the Governor's Office of Planning and Research. Through this connection, F5CA has engaged with the First 5 Association and local First 5 commissions to create awareness of the impact extreme heat has on vulnerable populations, specifically on pregnant people and children 0–5 years old. Additionally, on August 15, 2023, the executive director was invited to participate among numerous thought leaders in the First Partner's Mom's Equal Pay Day Roundtable to discuss how to address pay gap issues to ensure women and mothers can thrive in the workforce.

Personnel Update

Infinity Technologies, a California Certified Small Business, has been contracted to provide Information Technology (IT) Support Services to F5CA. Infinity Technologies was established in 2007 and specializes in providing IT support and network solutions for local jurisdictions and special districts throughout California and Nevada.