



## California Children and Families Commission Meeting

June 15, 2023

### MEETING MINUTES

\*The meeting was officially called to order at 1:37 p.m. Prior to any action item presentation, deliberation, or formal vote thereon, the following items were discussed:

#### **Item 1 – Opening Remarks**

##### Announcements

Jackie Thu-Huong Wong, Executive Director, First 5 California, opened the meeting with a Tribal Land Acknowledgment.

Vice Chair Hazan provided an overview of the goals for the meeting.

#### **Jackie Thu-Huong Wong, Executive Director, First 5 California**

Ms. Wong presented the Executive Director's report. The report included program, fiscal, and personnel updates.

#### **Avo Makdessian, First 5 Association, Executive Director**

Mr. Makdessian congratulated First 5 California (F5CA) on the launch of the Stronger Start campaign. Mr. Makdessian provided an update on First 5 counties and fiscal year 2023-24 budget planning efforts.

#### **Commissioner Comments**

Vice Chair Hazan thanked Mr. Makdessian for the update and feedback.

#### **Advisory Committees**

Commissioner Majors stated there was a Public Education and Outreach Advisory Committee meeting and shared positive sentiment about the progress of the current and future public relations campaign. Commissioner Risso shared there was an informal planning session with herself (as the chair) and F5CA staff to discuss items for the next Public Policy Advisory Committee agenda and that the Committee will have a formal meeting soon.

## Item 2 – Public Comment

None.

**Commissioner Paz joined the meeting and Vice Chair Hazan called the meeting to order at 1:37 p.m.**

Commissioners Present: Shana Hazan  
Jackie Majors  
Lori Risso  
Vivian Paz

Commissioners Absent: Katie Albright  
Elsa Jimenez  
Giannina Perez

Ex Officio Member Mijic: Absent

## Action Item 3 – Consent Calendar

**MOTION/ACTION:** Commissioner Majors moved to approve the Consent Calendar. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Paz.

**VOTE:** The motion was unanimously approved by the Commission.

## Action Item 4 – Twenty-Five Year Lookback

Dr. Angelo Williams, Chief Deputy Director, shared in consultation with Program and Evaluation Advisory Committee Chair Majors, F5CA was advised to bring Items 4 and 5 forward to the Commission for action. Dr. Williams stated Items 4 and 5 are heavily focused on data to understand F5CA's impact and outcome.

Dr. Amanda Lawrence, Research Scientist, provided a summary of the item with updates based on questions and feedback from Commissioners at the April 20, 2023, Commission meeting. She provided an overview of the project, outlining what the evaluation would entail, including research questions to be selected using a robust feedback process facilitated by selected experts, methods for the evaluation will be informed by the research questions selected to determine the effects of past and present investments, and other potential deliverables.

## Discussion

Vice Chair Hazan expressed her support for the project and stated having objective information will help inform the impact F5CA has made over the last 25 years and what F5CA should be focusing on and funding moving forward. Commissioner Majors shared her enthusiasm and stated both Items 4 and 5 speak to the Commission's rightful role in gathering data to make informed decisions. Commissioner Risso stated she is a proponent of data-driven decision making and is excited about the project.

## Public comment

None.

**MOTION/ACTION:** Commissioner Risso moved to approve up to \$2 million from the Research and Development fund account for the Twenty-Five Year Lookback project. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Paz.

**VOTE:** The motion was unanimously approved by the Commission.

## **Action Item 5 – Prenatal to Age 5 Data Landscape**

Dr. Putnam-Hornstein and Dr. Foust, Children’s Data Network (CDN), provided a recap of the proposal presented at the April 20, 2023, Commission meeting. Dr. Foust reinforced the importance of the 4 main work streams:

- Augment understanding of young children using available integrated data
- Connect ongoing data initiatives through a data-focused landscape analysis
- Support through targeted technical assistance around record linkage and analysis
- Collect information about service needs and experiences directly from families

Dr. Foust emphasized F5CA’s support will help to better understand the risk to babies born in California each year and fill a major gap in information about the needs and experiences of the entire population of young children and families in California.

## Discussion

Vice Chair Hazan asked how the community voice will be part of the work moving forward. Dr. Putnam-Hornstein stated the first year will include establishing a community group of parents to participate in the project and collecting data directly from parents. Vice Chair Hazan requested more information regarding the timeline and updates about the progress being made, and how CDN works with parents and communities. Ms. Wong responded by stating F5CA would work with the Program and Evaluation Advisory Committee and Chair Majors to provide guidance and updates to the full commission. Commissioner Majors shared she would like to see a dashboard of the Commission’s goals and what F5CA is trying to achieve. Vice Chair Hazan agreed having the work in a dashboard form and regular updates is important for this item and for all of the Commission’s work.

## Public comment

Sarah Crow, Director, First 5 Center for Children’s Policy: Ms. Crow expressed support for the proposal and partnership that will lead to new and improved information about infants and toddlers in California.

**MOTION/ACTION:** Commissioner Majors moved to approve up to \$3 million from the Research and Development fund account to contract with the Children’s Data Network for

the Prenatal to Age Five Data Landscape project. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Risso.

**VOTE:** The motion was unanimously approved by the Commission.

### **Item 6 – Adjournment**

**MOTION/ACTION:** Commissioner Risso moved to adjourn the Commission meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Majors.

**VOTE:** The motion was unanimously approved by the Commission.

Vice Chair Hazan adjourned the meeting at 2:43 p.m.

The next scheduled Commission meeting is August 17, 2023.