



**ADISORY COMMITTEE**  
DRAFT ACTION SUMMARY

April 12, 2024, 2:00 PM

**Members:** Robin Blanks, Kairis Chiaji, Carolyn Curtis, Junior Goris (Vice Chair), Janea Hackett-Little, Heidi Keiser, Maria Lopez, Fatima Malik, Jennifer Mohammad, Alexxandria Paige, Silvia Rodriguez (Chair), Chase Smith, Tony Smith, Linda Thrift, Darsey Varnedoe, Darla Williams, Walter Wyniarczuk

**Staff:** Julie Gallelo, Executive Director  
Stephanie Wills, Clerk of Commission  
Lindsay Dunckel, Early Learning Coordinator  
Erin Maurie, Communications and Policy Director

**Call to Order/Roll Call**

**ACTION:** The meeting was called to order at 2:09 PM by Chair Silvia Rodriguez.

**Absent:** Kairis Chiaji, Chase Smith, Darla Williams

**1. Welcome, Introductions and Teambuilder**

The teambuilder exercise was participating in the 'dragon breathe' exercise, a video in partnership with First 5 CA and Snoop Dogg featuring the Doggyland Kids. The video teaches children and parents how to take deep breaths when feeling frustrated or upset and the healthy way to handle emotions.

The Committee celebrated Member Heidi Keiser with a baby shower and wrote personal notes of congratulations and parenting advice.

**2. Public Comment and Off-Agenda Items**

There were no public comments.

**3. Approve Minutes from February 9, 2024**

**ACTION:** Motion to approve from Carolyn Curtis, seconded by Robin Blanks. Motion passes.

**4. Appoint Alternate member to the SOS Committee**

Darsey Varnedoe volunteered to be on the SOS Committee. The Committee Members approved.

## 5. Executive Director's Report

Julie Gallelo provided the following First 5 highlights:

- April 8<sup>th</sup> Commission Meeting and June 3<sup>rd</sup> agenda
- Staffing updates
- Guaranteed Income Pilot Program
- REDI+ CR Update
- City of Sacramento Children's Trust update
- First 5 CA Summit

## 6. Healthy Outcomes Positive Experiences (HOPE) Training

Committee Member Alexxandria Paige presented the HOPE program. It is a strength-based, child-centered, family-led program promoting access to the following four building blocks:

- Relationships
- Environments
- Engagements
- Emotional and Social Growth

## 7. Sac Family Connect (SFC)

Alejandra Labrado, First 5 Staff, presented about the Sac Family Connect Collaboration and new family centered website. This long-time existing Home Visiting Coordinating Collaborative morphed into SFC and expanded to include community agencies beyond home visiting to expand services that include the 'whole child/ whole family' approach.

SFC's goal is to connect families to all available programs through self-referral. This was achieved through the development of a multi-faceted parent, provider and community website. Highlights of the website include: a confidential self-referral online database that connects the user directly to multiple programs based on the personal criteria entered. The site also includes an in-depth provider professional development with hands-on training videos and modules.

The site has been soft-launched and will have a formal multi-media campaign kick-off this Summer. **ACTION:** Committee members were asked to run scenarios on the site and provide feedback to staff.

## 8. Member Announcements/Public Comments

- Carolyn Curtis asked to share a trauma informed video at the next meeting.
- Fatima Malik shared that she visited Gibson Ranch to learn more about the development of a sensory area.
- A full day training on HOPE is scheduled at Sierra Health Foundation on June 26<sup>th</sup>. Staff will send the save the date.

- This meeting is dedicated to child abuse prevention month and to County Child Welfare staff member, Renee, that saved a child's life through administering CPR.
- Chair Rodriguez announced this is her last year as Chair of the Advisory Committee. She also mentioned her work for CA Reducing Disparities Project and an upcoming event this Spring.
- PLTI parents are in need of mentors. Contact Alejandra Labrado if you are interested in helping a student on their community improvement project.

Adjourned: 3:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Erin Maurie  
First 5 Sacramento Commission