



ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEETING AGENDA

Values Statement: *Through respectful inquiry, genuine interest, and intention to learn from its diverse members, this committee operates as a safe space in order to fulfill our purpose to advise the Commission on how best to serve all children and families in Sacramento County.*

August 22, 2025 2:00-3:00PM

This is an In-Person Meeting for Committee Members for quorum and voting

Location: First 5 Sacramento, 2750 Gateway Oaks Drive, Suite 330 Sacramento, CA 95833

Community/Public May Join By Zoom:

<https://saccountynet.zoomgov.com/j/1613082791?pwd=Lc2j4PuiNzbcLtQbilQesuE7kF1MaG.1>

Members:

Javeed Ahmad, Robin Blanks, Kairis Chiaji, Carolyn Curtis, Bukola Gbadamosi, Junior Goris (Chair), Janea Hackett-Little, Kesha Harris, Linda Hernandez, Heidi Keiser, Maria Lopez, Fatima Malik, Jennifer Mohammad (Vice Chair), Silvia Rodriguez, Chase Smith, Tony Smith, Myel Thelen, Darsey Varnedoe, Darla Williams, Walter Wyniarczuk

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| 1. Welcome, Introductions & Teambuilder | 5 minutes |
| 2. Public Comments on Off-Agenda Items | 2 minutes |
| 3. Approval: Minutes from June 13, 2025 | 2 minutes |
| 4. Executive Director Update | 10 minutes |
| 5. Report Outs from Committee Reps
Finance, SOS, Evaluation | 10 minutes |
| 6. Presentation: Black Child Legacy Campaign | 25 minutes |
| 7. Member Announcements | 5 minutes |
| 8. Next Meeting: October 10, 2025 | |
| 9. Adjourn | |



Advisory Committee Meeting Agreements

Be Present: Engage in active listening and be aware of your thoughts and feelings in the moment. What do you need to stay present and engaged? Limit technology and distractions to only that which furthers your learning.

Honor Confidentiality: Share themes and learning outside of the space, but not individual stories.

Establish Brave Space: In difficult conversations our learning often comes through our own discomfort and risk taking. By avoiding conflict or keeping others "comfortable" you may miss the opportunity to authentically engage with others or further your own understanding. However, we also recognize that sometimes our words create harm despite our best intentions. We acknowledge we are here to learn in community with one another. By centering our work on our shared goals and values and approaching conversations with respect and generosity we will further our shared learning.

Expect and Accept Non-Closure: We want to solve problems and resolve conflict, and this is lifelong work. These are processes and awareness-raising conversations intended to further individual transformation, not the transformation of others. Sometimes you may have to revisit conversations to reconcile differences, and in other cases, things will go left unsaid, unfinished.

Power Dynamics: This is a non-hierarchical space. Remember, power dynamics change based on individual's identities and positionality. Be cognizant of the fact that some voices and identities have been given privilege while other voices and identities have been discriminated against.

Take Space/Make Space If you are someone who tends to not speak a lot, challenge yourself to contribute by speaking more. If you tend to speak a lot, make space for others to participate and focus on listening. As a group, notice and acknowledge power dynamics in the room - who is talking first? Who is holding power because of their role (like the facilitator), status, or identity? Who is disengaging or observing instead of actively participating?

Speak Your Truth and Let Others Speak Theirs: Different perspectives are welcome and encouraged. Speak from your own lived experience and not from experience that you do not personally have. Your normal may not be my normal.

Together We Know a Lot: Each of us brings knowledge to our discussions. And together, we know more than anyone of us alone. Shared learning is a practice in humility because we have something to learn from everyone in the room. It also means we all have a responsibility to share what we know and our questions, so that others may learn from us.

We Are Human, Not Perfect: As much as we'd like to be, we are human and therefore imperfect. We can't always be articulate. Often people feel hesitant to participate for fear of "messing up" or stumbling over their words. We encourage everyone to participate, even if you can't get it right all the time.

When Your Mind Starts to Judge, Instead Turn to Wonder: Approach problems and challenges from a place of curiosity and creative thinking rather from a point of frustration or judgment. This includes staying open to feedback and inquiry that others may offer you.

Make a Commitment as a Group: Keep the Racial Equity, Diversity and Inclusion and Cultural Responsiveness (REDI+CR) conversations going.



ADISORY COMMITTEE
DRAFT ACTION SUMMARY

June 13, 2025, 2:00 PM

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

Staff: Julie Gallelo, Executive Director
Lindsay Dunckel, Early Learning Coordinator
Erin Maurie, Communications and Policy Director
Kristin Scheiber, Chief of Administration
Maria Hammill, Administrative Services Officer 1

Call to Order/Roll Call

ACTION: The meeting was called to order at 2:08 PM by Chair Junior Goris.

Absent: Kesha Harris, Chase Smith, Linda Hernandez, and Darla Williams. Kairis Chiaji, Carolyn Curis, Fatima Malik and Tony Smith attended via zoom and were unable to vote.

1. Welcome, Introductions and Teambuilder

The meeting was chaired by Chair Junior Goris. Members introduced themselves.

2. Public Comment and Off-Agenda Items

No Public Comment.

3. Approve Consent Agenda

Minutes from November 8, 2024, February 14, 2025, and March 21, 2025. Long Range Calendar; 2025 Policy Priorities

Motion to approve from Robin Blanks seconded by Jennifer Mohammed.
Motion Passes.

4. Executive Director's Update

Julie Gallelo provided the following First 5 highlights:

- 2024 Strategic Plan Extended
- Racial Equity Funding Cycle Duration Extended
- Regional Home Visiting Summit
- Safe Sleep Baby 2.0 Toolkit
- Foster Youth 25 Year Summary
- First 5 CA Stronger Starts Campaign
- First 5 Annual Advocacy Day 2025
- First 5 Presents on Sacramento State Budget Panel
- Child Care Events and Honors
- Child Safety Forward Champion of Prevention Award
- Sacramento Children's Fund Recommendations
- Governor's May Revise Budget for 2025-26
- Federal Updates

5. Presentation: First 5 Sacramento Budget and 10-Year Financial Plan

Committee members received a presentation on the First 5 budget and 10-year financial plan. Kristin Scheiber, Chief of Admin, reviewed the 2025-26 budget highlights, revenue and expenditures.

6. Member Announcements

Junior Goris invited the Committee to attend the Parent Summit on June 14, 2025.

7. Next Meeting: August 22nd 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

8. Adjourn: 3:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Maria Hammill, Clerk of the Commission
First 5 Sacramento Commission

First 5 Sacramento Executive Director's Report for the Advisory Committee

August 22, 2025

Racial Equity, Diversity & Inclusion and Cultural Responsiveness (REDI +CR) Update

The Equity in Action Committee has held four meetings with the 15-member committee, each representing a priority zip code community. These initial onboarding meetings provided team-building opportunities for the members to get to know one another and bond with their passion to support First 5's mission. This committee is tasked with



fulfilling the Equity in Action Initiative to award \$4 million in grants from our REDI funding to organizations serving children and families in the identified communities. Meetings will continue throughout the year as they work to develop the grant criteria, create the application and award funding.

Parent Leadership Summit

Approximately 70 community members attended the Parent Leadership Summit in June at the North Natomas Community Center. The Summit was convened to celebrate parent leaders, and the roles community members play to address the concerns impacting their children, families and communities. The Summit kicked off with an inspirational welcome from Chair Serna and was followed by a panel that included Commissioners Wesley and Guerra, Rejie Babylos with Asian Resources, Inc. and Roberto Chene, a multi-cultural mediator. Parent leaders engaged with these mentors about the issues associated with creating a healthier, more robust multi-cultural society.

Staffing Update

Two staff members completed the County's Leadership Development Academy. Congratulations to Alejandra Labrado, Deputy Director and Lindsay Dunckel, Early Learning and REDI Manager. During the six-month course, County staff had the opportunity to enhance leadership skills, learn global trends impacting leadership, and create cross-department relationships.

Staff are feeling the crunch with the launch of the Equity in Action Initiative and have prioritized the hiring of our Human Services Program Specialist. We hope to have a new member of the team on board in September.

Last month, Communications Director, Erin Maurie, celebrated 20 years of making a difference at First 5 Sacramento. Congratulations, Erin!

Regional Home Visiting Contract Update

First 5 Sacramento has been the lead agency of a 10-county First 5 regional effort working collaboratively to provide worksite wellness, offer professional development and increase the home-visiting workforce. The two-year grant ended in June and was made possible by funding from First 5 CA. Several training opportunities were offered including CPR, First Aid and NarCan, with 150 home visitors receiving certification. The contract concluded with a first-ever wellness and workforce development conference. More than 300 home visitors attended the daylong conference. Attendees heard from inspirational speakers and participated in hands-on activities all celebrating the home visitor workforce.

Potter the Otter Museum Exhibit

First 5 Sacramento is partnering with the Sacramento Children's Museum bring the "Potter the Otter" Exhibit to town. Created by First 5 Santa Clara 10 years ago with a series of books, Potter now has a traveling life size interactive exhibit specifically for the littles. With this partnership we will provide free museum entry days and opportunities for families to connect with our local partners including Help Me Grow, the FRCs and Sac Family Connect. The exhibit will be at the Rancho Cordova museum through January.

Sacramento International Airport (SMF) Child Care Center

First 5 is developing an MOU with the airport to create a child care center for airport employees. First 5 will coordinate the childcare feasibility study and convene partners to develop a center that meets licensing and quality standards. When accomplished, the center at SMF will be the third airport-based child care center in the U.S. The airport is currently seeking \$1-2 million for one-time construction costs.

Budget Updates

State

The approved 2025-26 state budget presents challenges for First 5s, requiring us to do more with less on top of shrinking revenues and federal threats to core programs. The state budget summary from the First 5 Association is included in your packet.

Good news

- No cuts to the CalWORKs home visiting program
- Maintains some of the prior commitments to childcare (child care slots, Universal Transitional Kindergarten, child care facility investments)
- Approved child care cost-of-living adjustment
- Ongoing behavioral health funding for mental health services

Bad news

- Monthly Medi-Cal premiums implemented

- Freeze on new Medi-Cal enrollment for undocumented adults
- Elimination of dental benefits for undocumented Medi-Cal enrollees
- Reduced investment in Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) initiatives

Federal

The approved 2025-26 federal budget bill includes historic cuts to health care, food assistance, tax relief, and early education, which will severely impact access to essential services.

The full effect of the federal cuts is still unfolding and the State is analyzing how to address them. We anticipate significant strain on families and county services as a result. Some of the cuts will take effect immediately, however most will not be implemented for a year or two. Cuts to food assistance and healthcare programs will likely increase need, and First 5 and our colleagues in the County's Health and Human Services Agency will do everything possible to support residents with available resources. We remain committed to protecting access to critical programs, though we recognize there are limits to what counties can absorb alone.

What is First 5 Sacramento doing right now?

- Gathering data on local impacts and partner program cuts
- Collaborating with Health Management Associates on a health-focused webinar to assess policy implications
- Exploring legislation opportunities that the Association can sponsor or support for the next session
- Participating in First 5 Association's CA Federal Advocacy Workgroup

Black Child Legacy Campaign

First 5 Advisory Presentation

08/22/2025



Our Trusted Partners

Community Incubator Leads (CILs)

Foothill Farms & North Highlands

Liberty Towers

Faith-based
Youth-centered

Fruitridge & Stockton

Sacramento Building Healthy Communities

Community advocacy
Collaborative building

Arden Arcade

Mutual Assistance Network

Crisis intervention
Social engagement and education

Oak Park

Greater Sacramento Urban League

Racial justice and civil rights
Economic development

Valley Hi

South Sacramento Christian Center

The church and activism

Meadowview

Rose Family Creative Empowerment Center

Teaching AA history through creative arts and academic
health

Del Paso Heights & North Sacramento

Roberts Family Development Center

Pre-K through 12th academic support





Unmovable Commitment to Community
Centered, Led, and Driven



Key Partners in the Work

- Sacramento City Unified District Safe Schools
- Community Wellness Responsive Wellness Program
- Department of Human Assistance
- Department of Probation
- Child Protective Services
- Black Parallel School Board
- Department of Children Families and Adult Services
- Sacramento Employment and Training Agency



Intensive Case
Management
(Wraparound Services)

Systems Advocacy

Mentoring

**Our Community-Based Organizations
Executing the Great Work**

Mental Health/
Wellness Support

Academic Support

Safe Sleep
Education



The Reach of the Tree



BCLC Service Data FY2324



Program Highlight

Concrete Needs

What is the Concrete Needs program?

- Partnership with DCFAS
- Supporting families with one or more children ages 0-5
- Supporting adults pregnant or parenting youth
- Area codes served: 95823, 95821, 95825, 95815

What services does Concrete Needs provide?

- Immediate Support
- Case Management through BCLC network and services
- Prevention Training
- Stabilizing Families
- Preventing reengagement with CPS



Concrete Needs Partner Agencies

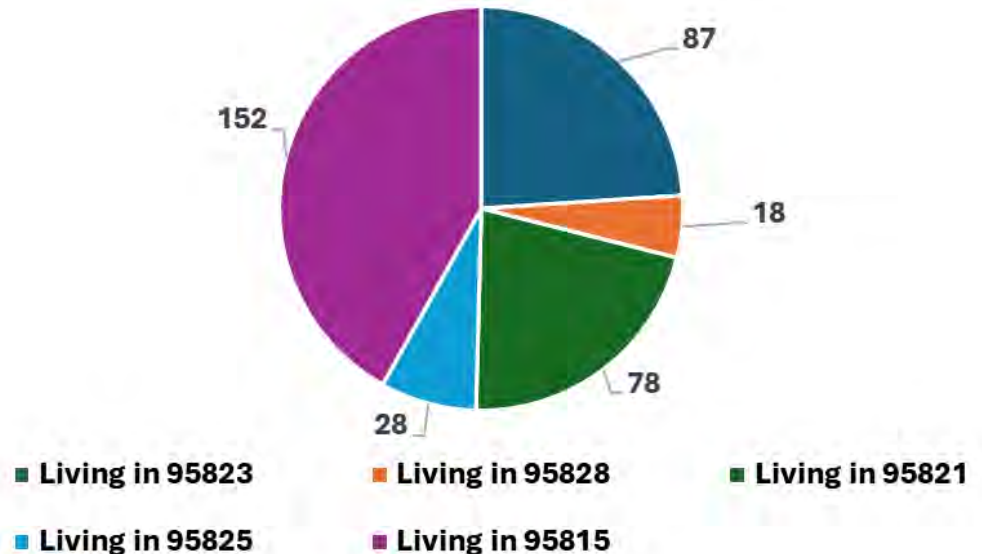
Community Partners:

- Mutual Assistance Network
- Roberts Family Development Center
- Rose Family Creative Empowerment Center
- South Sacramento Christian Center

Total of 363 families served

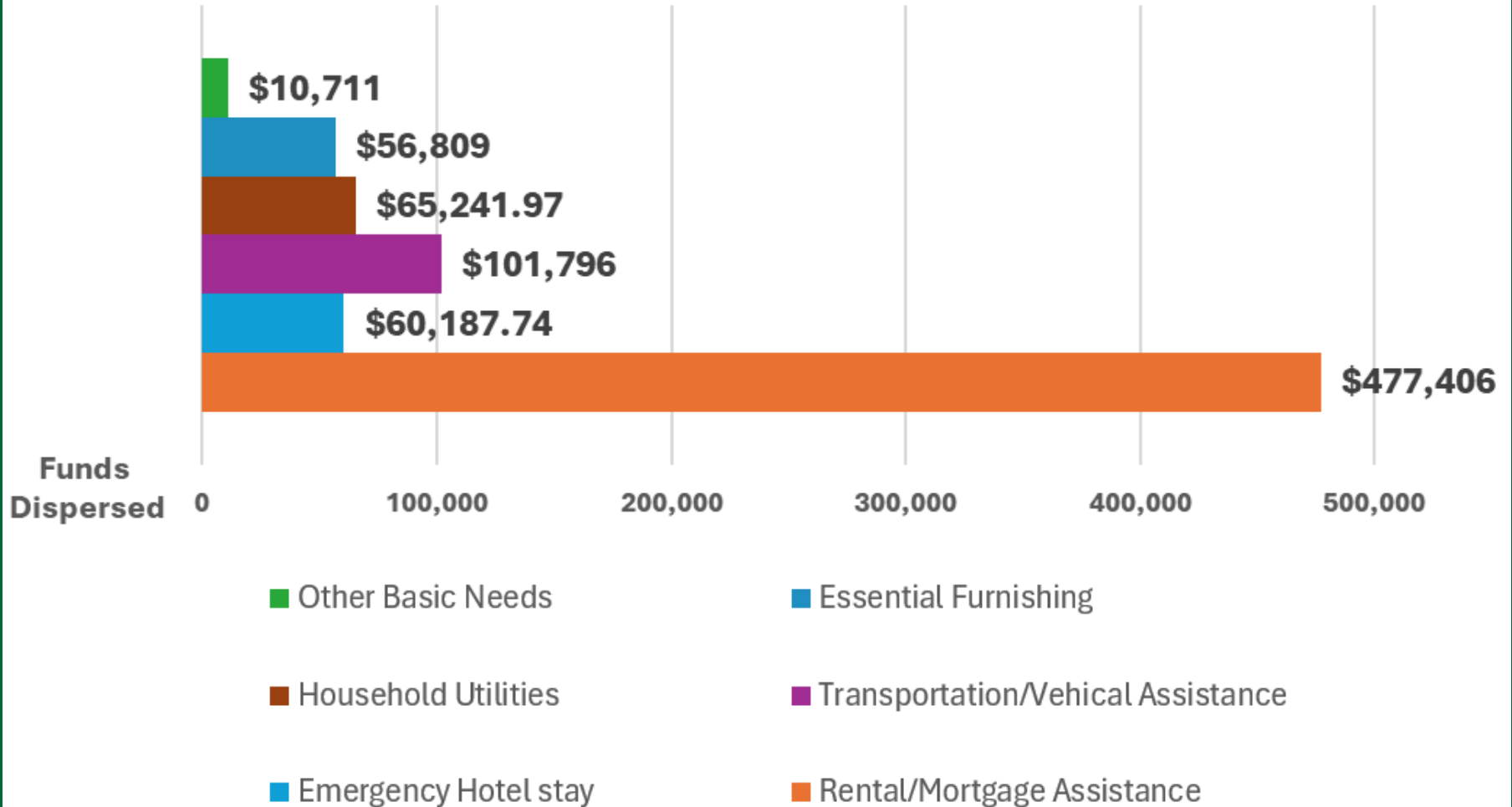
BCLC Partners

Families Served





Services Provided and Requested



Services Most Requested

- Rental/Mortgage Assistance
- Move-in Costs/Deposits
- Home maintenance/repairs
- Emergency Hotel stay
- Transportation/Vehicle Assistance
- Groceries
- Clothing
- Household Utilities
- Other Bills
- General Debt Assistance
- Children's Needs
- Legal Assistance
- Essential Furnishing
- Education Training
- Other Basic Needs
- Funeral Expenses

A total of \$787,989 distributed to the
community



10 Years In

- Proven pathway to community
- Systems change
- Structure for emerging Programs
- Impacting in Disparities
- Expanding the Reach
- Continued Commitment and Method over 10 years span



New Strategic Plan

- Underscoring Impactful Partners
- Encompassing Additional Factors to the 4 Cause Areas
- Shifting from Percentage Reduction to Disparity Reduction
- Legacy Forward



Questions?

