

# FIRST 5 SACRAMENTO COMMISSION

2750 Gateway Oaks Dr., Suite 330  
Sacramento, CA 95833

## EVALUATION COMMITTEE

### ACTION SUMMARY

Monday, May 17, 2021 – 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM



**Members:** Steve Wirtz (Chair), David Gordon (Vice Chair), Olivia Kasirye

**Advisory Committee Member(s):** Emily Bowen, Robin Blanks

**Staff:** Julie Gallelo, Carmen Garcia-Gomez

**Absent:** Olivia Kasirye

**Consultant:** Applied Survey Research



This meeting took place via Zoom due to Covid-19 restrictions and to adhere to the County's policy on social distancing.

1. Call to order and Roll Call

**Action:** Meeting was called to order at 1:01 PM. A quorum was established.

2. Public Comments on Off-Agenda Items

**Action:** None.

3. Approve Draft Action Summary of April 19, 2021

**Action:** Wirtz/Bowen.

4. Staff Update

#### ***Referral Portals***

First 5 Sacramento staff provided an updated on the referral portals that will be used by First 5 Sacramento contractors. Unite Us and Persimmony Inc. will be used to track referrals and provide information on the status of a referrals once it's made. Unite Us is a national organization that has a data system similar to 2-1-1, however, they have an online referral portal where the referrals are made electronically. Some contractors shared concerns about using another data system, therefore, staff has approached Persimmony to develop the referral portal so that First 5 Sacramento contractors are able to use the portal to send referrals to First 5 funded contractors and non-funded agencies. Staff explained how the referral portals work. Contractors are required to use one of the identified referral portals.

Staff explained that the systems currently don't integrate with one another. Consent safeguards will need to be put in place before this can happen.

Committee members raised questions about agencies receiving referrals and how they would know what the referral is about. Staff explained that during training, instructions would be provided to contractors to ensure there is follow-up with

the agency receiving the referral to make sure they open the email they receive. The introductory email should have First 5 Sacramento information (logo, customized message).

Stephanie Biegler shared that the executive directors shared with First 5 Sacramento concerns about using Unite Us via letter.

Staff further explained that services need to be entered into Persimmony by those contractors using Unite Us.

### ***CalWORKs Forms and Data Export***

Staff shared that the California Department of Social Services and UCSF has requested CalWORKs Home Visiting participant data for evaluation purposes. Staff has been working with the evaluation team from UCSF, Persimmony International, Inc., and Birth and Beyond to develop a list of variables that will be exported and shared with UCSF.

Birth and Beyond will be implementing a new curriculum for the home visiting programs. First 5 staff worked with B&B to help streamline the forms that will be used for both PAT and HFA.

### ***Persimmony Client File Access***

Staff provided information on the sharing of client records and the benefits of making the Persimmony client file viewable by all data entry users. In order for this to be possible, the First 5 Sacramento consent will need to be updated to allow for the sharing of client records for the purpose of the coordination of care. Some contractors have shared concerns about this proposed feature. Staff has been working with Persimmony to put some safeguards in place to protect service and assessment data. The only users who will have access to the Persimmony client list are First 5 funded partners. The benefit of this is to address the duplication issue and to improve the coordination of services for clients served for clients.

**ACTION:** Staff will return to the Evaluation Committee with an update on how the data will be received from Unite Us. Staff will also provide an update on Persimmony and the process put in place to share the client list across programs.

#### 5. General Evaluation Update – Applied Survey Research

ASR provided an update on the evaluation activities that took place during the month of May. Activities included updating the evaluation plans (RBAs), presentation of the Birth and Beyond Annual Report to the Commission in May, and the development of the special studies HMG proposal and planning for the CalWORKs special study. ASR staff also provided details of the activities shared on the timeline.

**Action:** July meeting, provide the Committee with specifics on the variables for the CPS data pull.

#### 6. Approve Help Me Grow Special Study Proposal

ASR staff presented the HMG Special Study Proposal. The special study will focus on the process of the three prongs of HMG – the call center, family advocates and website. The study will not focus on program outcomes. The Committee will receive a report at the July meeting.

ASR confirmed that they collaborated with HMG to develop the proposal.

**Action:** Blanks/Gordon

7. Review and Approve Family Information Form (FIF)

ASR staff presented the updated Family Information Form focusing on the additions/revisions. Changes to the Parent FIF include: adding "non-binary" to the gender options, as well as questions to address positive childhood experiences (HOPE related questions) and referral categories.

Changes to the Child FIF – follow up questions to the dentist and medical care areas were added. Additional questions related to HOPE were also added.

Committee members and guests provided feedback to the forms.

Stephanie Biegler suggested that First 5 trains contractors about the expectations when you get a non-strength based response to the questions from HOPE.

**Action:** Blanks/Wirtz

8. Review and Approve Evaluation Plans (RBAs)

RBAs: There wasn't sufficient time to review the RBAs. There were formatting errors on the excel document of the RBAs as a result of converting them to PDF for the packet. Staff explained that the issue will be resolved prior to finalizing the documents.

**Action:** Committee members will provide feedback to First 5 staff. First 5 staff to share any feedback received with Committee members.

9. Review First 5 Sacramento Tableau Dashboards

ASR staff provided a brief overview of the Tableau dashboards that will be created for First 5 Sacramento. The Tableau dashboards will include community indicator data, outcome data from the annual report, and success story highlights. The full dashboard will be presented in July.

R. Blanks asked if dental data will be included in the dashboards. ASR staff explained that dental has changed to systems improvement and will not have a dashboard.

First 5 staff indicated that in following years additional dashboards will be created for programs (School Readiness, Breastfeeding, etc.).

10. Committee Member Comments

a. Miscellaneous

b. Future Agenda Items/Presentations – The agenda for the July meeting will be developed with items from the Agenda at a Glance created earlier in the year.

Adjourned: 3:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carmen Garcia-Gomez, Evaluation Manager  
First 5 Sacramento Commission