



## **2025 Policy Priorities**

In partnership with parents, caregivers, and their communities, First 5 Sacramento seeks to advance equitable, inclusive, and culturally responsive prevention and early intervention policies, systems, and practices that eliminate racial inequities, promote optimal health and development, and improve the lives of children prenatal through age five and their families.

First 5 Sacramento's 2025 policy, advocacy and systems improvement efforts will focus on the following priorities:

### **Health and Wellness**

1. Seek to repair harm done to communities of color and eliminate racial inequities in parental and infant health outcomes by removing systemic racist practices and barriers to care for people of color, and increasing culturally relevant services for birthing people.
2. Support and promote coordination across systems of care to connect young children to screenings and early intervention services.
3. Support initiatives that address equitable access to skilled lactation care and other breastfeeding supports and resources.
4. Support and promote efforts to improve the systems of healthcare for birthing people to reduce disparities in perinatal morbidity and mortality.

### **Early Care and Development**

5. Support efforts to increase the supply of high-quality early care and education programs for children by advocating for equitable access to affordable childcare and early learning programs.
6. Support systems improvement for the early care and education workforce by advocating for fair compensation and higher education, while valuing diversity across the field.

### **Empowered Families**

7. Support programs and policies that prioritize primary prevention to build resiliency through trauma informed approaches and fortify family strengths.
8. In coordination with local early childhood systems building efforts, expand and strengthen the home visiting workforce by supporting professional development, with the goal of ensuring home visitors represent the diversity of Sacramento's families.

9. Empower parents to be effective community leaders and advocates to improve the well-being of children and families through expanded leadership programming and policies.

### **Systems Improvement and Sustainability**

10. Support the sustainability of First 5 Sacramento programs, services and outcomes impacting children and families through capacity building initiatives.
11. Support systems change efforts, policies, legislation and programs that prioritize racial equity, diversity and inclusion (REDI), anti-black racism, and social justice.
12. Implement policies and leverage resources to strengthen the capacity of funded partners to effectively serve children and families.
13. Explore and advance additional revenue sources for ensuring sustainable, comprehensive, equitable and integrated systems and services for children and families.