



2021 Policy Priorities Prioritizing Young Children Ages 0-5

The First 5 Policy Priorities highlight the Commission's priorities to advance policy change on a larger systemic level, as well as smaller scale changes to organizational and programmatic policies and procedures with local providers. First 5 Sacramento's policy and advocacy efforts in 2021 will focus on these 13 priority areas.

Health

1. Increase access to and utilization of medical, dental and mental health services for young children and pregnant women.
2. Support and promote coordination across systems of care to connect young children to screening and early intervention services.
3. Support efforts to fill gaps in breastfeeding support services, supplies or other barriers to care.

Early Care and Development

4. Support efforts to increase the supply of high-quality early care and education programs for children-
5. Promote affordability of childcare and early learning programs, increased workforce education, degree attainment opportunities and fair compensation.

Empowered Families

6. Support programs and policies that optimize child development and reduce the risk of child maltreatment and trauma.
7. Increase social capital by engaging the community and supporting family connections to community resources.

Systems Change and Sustainability

8. Support the sustainability of First 5 Sacramento programs, services and outcomes impacting children and families through capacity building initiatives.
9. Support systems, policies and programs that prioritize racial equity and social justice, which address institutional, structural, systemic, interpersonal and intrapersonal racism.
10. Support systems, policies and programs that lessen the impact of Adverse Child Experiences (ACEs) and build resiliency through trauma-informed approaches.
11. Coordinate and streamline countywide home visiting services, implement a single point of entry and build capacity to maximize additional funding.
12. Implement policy and leverage resources to strengthen the capacity of funded partners to effectively serve children and families impacted by the pandemic.
13. Explore and advance alternative revenue sources for children's services.