



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
April 23, 2025

**CONTACT:** Erin Maurie, 916-876-6684  
mauriee@saccounty.gov

## **First 5 Sacramento Launches Community-Driven Grant Process**

### ***Now Accepting Applications to join the Equity in Action Committee***

**Sacramento, CA** – In a major step toward equitable funding, First 5 Sacramento is launching a Participatory GrantMaking (PGM) process designed to shift power into the hands of the community. This new approach allows residents to directly influence how \$4 million is distributed to organizations serving historically marginalized children and families.

### **A Community-Led Approach to Funding**

For too long, traditional grant-making processes have left under-resourced organizations struggling to access critical funding for young children. **This changes now.** With the new Equity in Action Committee, First 5 Sacramento is ensuring that the people most impacted by funding decisions have a seat at the table. [Learn more about Equity in Action on the First 5 Sacramento website.](#)

First 5 Sacramento is recruiting members for the Equity in Action Committee that reflect the voices of Sacramento's diverse communities.

### **[Applications are now being accepted.](#)**

### **Why This Matters**

This initiative is more than just a funding shift—it's about ensuring that early childhood development programs reflect the communities they serve. The PGM process changes that by:

- Centering community voices in funding decisions
- Supporting organizations led by and serving under-resourced families
- Increasing transparency and accountability in how grants are awarded

"First 5 supports putting decision-making power where it belongs—with the people who know their communities best," said Phil Serna, Chairman of both the First 5 Sacramento Commission and the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors. "The Equity in Action community-driven committee will ensure our funding investments support Sacramento's diverse families."

### **Join the Movement: Apply for the Equity in Action Funding Panel**

Sacramento County residents who want to make a difference in the lives of children ages 0-5 are encouraged to apply for the Equity in Action Funding Panel. No prior experience is needed—just knowledge of the needs of your community and a commitment to equity and community empowerment.