



# COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

## AGENDA ITEM

### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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**DATE:** February 8, 2022

# 15

**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**SUBJECT:**  
**RECEIVE THE FIRST 5 SAN DIEGO 2021 ANNUAL REPORT (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

### OVERVIEW

In November 1998, voters passed the California Children and Families Act (Proposition 10). The First 5 Commission of San Diego (Commission) uses revenue from voter-approved taxes on cigarettes and tobacco products to promote early childhood development for children ages zero to five. The Commission recently completed and approved its year-end report, providing a summary of the Commission's activities for Fiscal Year (FY) 2020-21. Today, the San Diego County Board of Supervisors is requested to receive the First 5 Commission of San Diego Annual Report for FY 2020-21.

This item supports the County of San Diego's vision of a just, sustainable, and resilient future for all, specifically those communities and populations in San Diego County that have been historically left behind, as well as our ongoing commitment to the regional *Live Well San Diego* vision of healthy, safe and thriving communities. This will be accomplished by seeking to improve early childhood health and development in the San Diego region as well as the Commission's long-term goal to ensure that "all children in San Diego County enter school ready to learn."

### RECOMMENDATION(S)

#### CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

1. Receive the First 5 Commission of San Diego Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2020-21.

### EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The First 5 Commission of San Diego (Commission) has over 20 years of providing high quality early care and education support services throughout the region that are available to every child. This work is led through various contracted partners who provide families of children zero to five with comprehensive services that support the development and overall well-being and support the vision that all children ages zero through five are healthy, loved and nurtured, and enter school as active learners.

Commission services are provided through local community-based organizations and with some engaging targeted populations that include, but are not limited to refugee/immigrant families, teen parents, military connected and low-income. The Commission aims to ensure services are

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equitably available to all families that have a need, regardless of their race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, gender identity, and/or sexual orientation.

Additionally, the Commission strives to meet the needs of underserved communities and is an advocate for systems change efforts to support the continuity of care for children and their families. This work is accomplished via the approved First 5 San Diego Strategic Plan 2020-2025 (Strategic Plan), which is informed by an hoc committee made up of diverse and cross sector community stakeholders. The committee provided valuable input to inform the Commission of the comprehensive and emerging needs of pregnant women and children zero to five years of age.

The Strategic Plan elevates four new priorities as follows: resilient families, coordinated systems of care, integrated leadership, and sustained funding ensuring that all children in San Diego County are supported. It is the continued focus of the Commission, and every program developed, to continue developing and enhancing its services to address the community needs and to further expand an equity-focused approach. Every contract for services that is developed by the Commission includes performance measures and equity requirements that must be met and are reported on a quarterly basis so that barriers that impact children zero to five in San Diego County can be reduced and/or eliminated.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no fiscal impact associated with this action. There will be no change in net General Fund costs and no additional staff years.

**BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

**ADVISORY BOARD STATEMENT**

N/A

**BACKGROUND**

In November 1998, California voters passed the California Children and Families Act (Proposition 10). This statewide ballot initiative increased the tax on cigarettes and tobacco products and created local county commissions to oversee funding decisions. The revenue is used to facilitate the development of comprehensive, integrated services and systems that promote early childhood development from the prenatal period through age five. The goal of the First 5 Commission of San Diego (Commission) is to ensure that “all children in San Diego County enter school ready to learn.”

The Commission receives approximately \$27 million per year directly from the State First 5 Commission to support the First 5 San Diego Strategic Plan 2020-2025 (Strategic Plan), which guides the Commission’s actions and funding decisions. Adopted by the Commission on April 18, 2019, the Strategic Plan has four areas of focus for funding: 1) Health, 2) Learning, 3) Community, and 4) Family. For each focus area, the plan identifies the Commission’s objectives and priority strategies.

The report submitted today highlights the comprehensive outreach and impact of the Commission during Fiscal Year 2020-21 including:

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- Screened 12,197 children for developmental delays and treated 4,120 children with developmental concerns.
- Supported 478 early learning and care sites in providing high-quality preschool.
- Served 557 pregnant women and caregivers and 497 children with intensive home visits.
- Provided 22,169 health and social service referrals for families.
- Since March 2020 the Commission has been engaged in leading COVID-19 response efforts to support the childcare community by serving as a liaison between the County of San Diego (County) and the public, developing and maintaining a sector support webpage and hosting ongoing telebriefings to provide current resources and information on the rapidly evolving public health situation with local, state, and national guidance.

The Commission funds a variety of efforts that support the County's *Live Well San Diego* vision of a region that is building better health, living safely, and thriving. Today's action requests that the San Diego County Board of Supervisors receive the First 5 Commission of San Diego Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2020-21.

**LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO STRATEGIC PLAN**

Today's proposed action to receive the First 5 Commission of San Diego 2021 Annual Report supports the County of San Diego's 2022-2027 Strategic Plan Initiatives of Sustainability (Resiliency), Equity (Health), and Community (Quality of Life and Partnership) by ensuring access for all children ages birth to five years of age, through a fully optimized early care and education system of care, as well as providing programs and services that enhance the community through increasing the well-being of our families and providers.

Respectfully submitted,



HELEN N. ROBBINS-MEYER  
Chief Administrative Officer

**ATTACHMENT(S)**

*Note: Due to the size of the attachments, the documents are available online through the Clerk of the Board's website at [www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/cob/bosa.html](http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/cob/bosa.html).*

Attachment A - First 5 Commission of San Diego Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2020 – 21