


Executive Director Report

KAREN SCOTT
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



A Message from the ED



 Less than nine months ago, California voters overwhelmingly rejected Prop 1D which aimed to divert and/or cut First 5 funds from critical local children's health and education programs to backfill gaps in the state budget. Despite that

defeat, the Governor has proposed going back to the ballot and asking voters the very same thing.

The Governor's proposed budget includes a one-time sweep of \$308 million from state and county First 5 funds, regardless of the current commitments for those funds, and another \$242 million every year for five years. That is a take-away of \$1.5 billion - \$1.2 billion of which will come directly from local children's programs.

What does this take-away mean for San Bernardino County? The loss of \$50 million in revenue will reduce health and education

programs for more than 100,000 infants, toddlers and preschoolers in San Bernardino County who rely on FIRST 5 services. Also an estimated 380 jobs are supported by FIRST 5 San Bernardino funds, such as: public health nurses, preschool teachers, mental health clinicians and community based organizations that provide these services.

First 5 funding supports preschool, school readiness activities, family literacy, and enhanced child care programs for real families, with real outcomes.

The Governor's proposal will harm children in San Bernardino County and statewide cutting First 5 funding by 53% in the first year, and more each subsequent year.

As the Proposition 10 First 5 Commissions continue to inform our legislators on the ways that First 5 dollars support children in our communities and should therefore not be diverted for other purposes, I would like to take this time to thank the many individuals who have helped us in this effort. First, thank you to the San Bernardino County Board of

Supervisors. On January 26, 2010, the Board of Supervisors adopted their State Legislative Platform for 2010 which included taking the position to oppose legislation that would eliminate First 5 San Bernardino and/or compromise local control over Proposition 10 money. The Board of Supervisor Chairman, 4th District Supervisor Gary Ovitt, and Vice-Chair, 5th District Supervisor Josie Gonzales also submitted a letter outlining this same position to both the Senate Budget and Fiscal Review and Assembly Budget Committees. This shows the

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March Edition

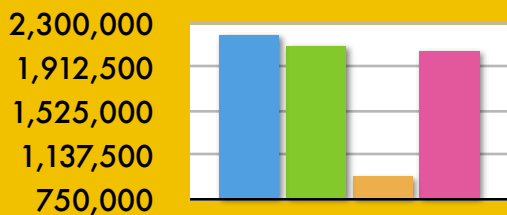


2010

Updates

Fiscal Update

F5SB received the monthly revenue from Prop 10 funds in the amount of \$2,059,678 for December, 2009.



Prop 10 Funds

■ September ■ October
■ November ■ December

Children's Health

IEHP Coverage for January, 2010= 1072 premiums paid by First 5 San Bernardino for a total of \$ 100,241.56

Calendar of Events

We have dozens of events for families, children, care givers, and child care providers.

For information visit us online at first5sanbernardino.org

Tuesday, March 2, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Perinatal Mood Disorders: Improving its Assessment

Monday, March 8, 9:00 AM
High Desert Partnership for Kids

Tuesday, March 9, All day event
Healthy People 2010

Tuesday, March 9, 3:00 PM
East Valley Community Collaborative

Monday, March 15, 2:30 PM
Bear Valley Community Collaborative

Wednesday, March 24, 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Childhelp Merv Griffin Village Community Open House

Wednesday, March 31, 7:30 AM - 10:00 AM
Shine A Light On Child Abuse Awards Breakfast

Wednesday, March 31, 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
Brain Tumors and Air Pollution Studies

First 5 San Bernardino Staff Corner: Inez Denson

Inez Denson, serves First 5 San Bernardino as an Evaluations Staff Analyst and was recently promoted to a Staff Analyst II position. Inez works tirelessly on maintaining our many levels of evaluations and outcomes that ensure First 5 is staying accountable with all of our investments.

Inez grew up in a military family, and living in a plethora of locations across the United States and as far as, Bamberg, Germany. Inez is very close with her family, including her mom in Cincinnati and her father, a Pastor of Burning Bush Church in Victorville, CA.

Inez was named Inez Necol, after both of her grandmothers, but the family calls her 'Nez'.

Inez attended a new school every year until the 10th grade. She graduated from Victor Valley High in 97, received her BA, in Family and Consumer Science in 2002 and received a Masters in Education, from LaVerne University in 2006.

Her first job was with CHASE (Community Health and Social Epidemiology) Programs, a non-profit organization with CSULB Foundation as a data entry clerk. Later, Inez became a Research Assistant II for the Community Grants, funded by the CDC. She also served as a Child Development teacher for 3 years prior to her employment at F5SB.

Inez enjoys, in her time off, traveling, visiting family, movies, going to the beach with her First 5 toddler, Nejala and shopping. Her favorite time of year is Christmas. She "enjoys cooking but can't bake." Her passion is working with people and she is working hard to purchase a house for her family. "I enjoy working here at F5SB, because of the opportunity to meet people," says Inez, "I love the work we do for our community and children."

Thank you Inez, for all the hard work and dedication to First 5 San Bernardino!



Thank you, First 5!

It was a great honor to receive a playground from you. It was an even greater honor knowing that out of the many day cares out there, we were chosen to receive one. My daycare enjoys playing on this wonderful playground everyday. One day they might be pirates on their pirate ship sailing across the seven seas.

Another day they may be playing castle and pretending to save a princess and defeat a dragon.

Now, we do not have to go to the park when the children want to play outside.

I remember the expressions on their faces when they went outside and saw the playground for the first time. It was as if it was Christmas morning all over again. Seeing the kids have fun on this playground gives me a feeling of joy, knowing we earned this playground through hard work in the community.

Sincerely,

Elsa Diaz and Diaz Family Daycare



A Message from the ED

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commitment to our local children by our Board of Supervisors. Thank you!

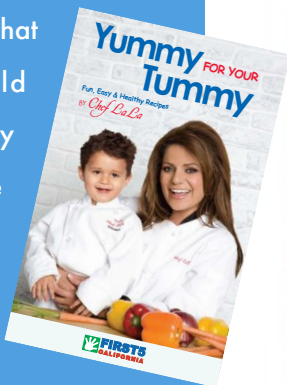
On February 10th, two parents from San Bernardino County traveled to Sacramento to testify before the Assembly Committee for Health and Human Services on the impact in their lives and their children's lives if Proposition 10 monies were diverted from the intended purpose, away from the programs and services on which they depend. Mr. Jose Davila and Ms. Teresa Dehessa were among 53 parents that spoke passionately to the committee members to oppose redirection of First 5 funding.

On February 17th, I had the opportunity to attend the San Bernardino County Head Start Shared Governance Board and Head Start Parent Policy Council Joint meeting. There I met with members that represented 10,000 parents of children ages 5 and under across the County. These parent representatives were very eager to go back and share within their respective councils and ensure that they communicated with their legislatures on the issue of much needed services to their children - services that can not be provided by diverting funds to the State General Fund for Medi-Cal, Foster Care, Inland Regional Center programs and the like.

And finally, thank you to our partner agencies, County departments, and collaboratives across the County of San Bernardino who also committed to contacting their legislators and informing them of the value of First 5 services in their work and their communities. Thank you all!

Keep your preschooler on the healthy track!

For fun easy recipes that will keep your child going through the day and are fun to make together, call First 5 San Bernardino for your free copy of the "Yummy for your Tummy" cookbook.



My Pyramid (contributed by the Nutrition Program of San Bernardino)



Need help feeding "picky" preschoolers nutritious foods? You've got it! The U.S. Department of Agriculture's MyPyramid for Preschoolers includes advice on what foods to offer to young children, their growth, ways to encourage physical activity, preventing battles over food, and cooking and eating together. MyPyramid for Preschoolers is designed for parents and caregivers of kids two to five years old. At the website (www.mypyramid.gov/preschoolers), you can enter a child's age, weight, height and activity level to get a meal plan for that child. Here are some of the helpful tips you can get at the site:

They Learn from Watching You If you eat fruits and veggies, your kids will too, eventually. Be patient. It may take up to a dozen tries before your child accepts a food. Offer only one new food in a meal, in a relaxed manner, and at the beginning, when your child is most hungry.

Let Them Learn by Serving Themselves At meals, let preschoolers practice serving foods from small bowls that you hold for them. Teach kids to take small amounts. Tell them they can ask for more if they are still hungry later. Let them choose how much to eat.

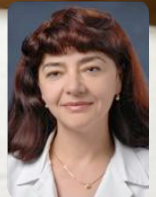
San Bernardino County 5th District Supervisor Josie Gonzales, First 5 San Bernardino and ARMC present...

Brain Tumors and Air Pollution Studies

A Free Seminar



Keith L. Black, MD
Cedars-Sinai Medical Center



Julia Y. Ljubimova, MD, PhD
Cedars-Sinai Medical Center

Does short and chronic exposure to air pollution impact the brain — especially in our children? What do we know today about air pollution's influence on the development of brain diseases and tumors?

Come to this seminar to hear from the experts about how air pollution may affect the brain and what we can potentially do to protect ourselves and our children.

When: Wednesday, March 31, 2010
11:45 a.m. (lunch is served)
12:00 p.m. (seminar begins)

Where: Arrowhead Regional Medical Center
Oak Room, First Floor, Main Lobby
400 N. Pepper Ave., Colton

Speakers: **Keith L. Black, MD**
Chairman and Professor, Department of Neurosurgery
Director, Maxine Dunitz Neurosurgical Institute
Cedars-Sinai Medical Center

Julia Y. Ljubimova, MD, PhD
Research Scientist and Principal Investigator
Drug Delivery and Nanotechnology Program, Department of
Neurosurgery, Maxine Dunitz Neurosurgical Institute
Cedars-Sinai Medical Center

Space is limited, please RSVP by March 22nd to: 909-386-7706
Free parking available in Lot 4, in front of main hospital entrance.



Contact us on the WEB at www.arrowheadmedicalcenter.org

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First 5 Out and About

First 5 San Bernardino hosted the "Fair Thee Well" Health and Resource Fair in Joshua Tree on February 20 for children 5 and younger and their families. Children lined up for free dental screenings, a trek through the San Bernardino County's Fire Safety Trailer, and a tour through First 5 California's Hands on Health Express. The afternoon included a host of interactive games and activities for kids including face painting, puppetmaking, coloring activities, balloon animals and more.

From 10:00am to 1:00pm, families were able to gather information about free and low cost services in the Yucca Valley area. Participating First 5 agencies included Morongo Basin Mental Health Services, ARMC First 5 Dental Program, KidsNCare, the Partnership for Healthy Babies and the Children's Network. Other agencies specializing in the health and well being of children included WIC (Women, Infants, Children), the Joshua Tree Branch Library, Joshua Tree Parks and Recreation Department,



Headstart, and Pacific Clinics amongst others. Parents received information on the importance of intervention and prevention when it comes to their young child's health and find resources available in the Mid Desert communities.

On February 26, First 5 San Bernardino took part in the Parent Leadership Conference in Ontario CA. This event spoke to parents about becoming advocates for their children and for those children who do not have someone to speak for them. The full day of workshops and seminars kept parents abreast of resources in their communities and key people in the children services industries who could empower parents to work to empower others. The event was very well received, attracting over 400 people. First 5 San Bernardino was a key part of the conference offering information, resources and services to parents, care givers and child advocates alike.

investing

in our most precious resource...our children



FIRST 5
SAN BERNARDINO

330 N. "D" STREET, STE. 500
SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92415
909-386-7706