

# FIRST 5 FRESNO COUNTY

ADMINISTERED BY CHILDREN & FAMILIES COMMISSION OF FRESNO COUNTY

**DATE:** Wednesday, August 31, 2022

Lighthouse for Children

2405 Tulare Street

**TIME:** 11:30 a.m. – Regular Meeting

Fresno, CA 93721

Per [Assembly Bill 361](#) authorizing public meetings to be held via teleconferencing, this Regular Meeting will also be held via Zoom using the following link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86569526219?pwd=S1ZSL3NtNHBYZmt3TUdhNo1ySU1ldz09>

**Meeting ID:** 865 6952 6219 **and Passcode:** 711720

The public may participate in the meeting, as otherwise permitted under the Brown Act, by joining us in person or using the link above.

## AGENDA

ITEM	SUBJECT	PRESENTER
1.	<b>CALL TO ORDER</b>	Chair Pacheco
2. <b>Action</b> Pg. 2	<b>RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE COMMISSION PARTICIPATION PURUSANT TO AB 361</b> Supporting Document	Chair Pacheco K. Price, Legal Counsel
3.	<b>POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST</b> Any Commission Member who has potential conflict of interest may now identify the item and recuse themselves from discussing and voting on the matter.	Chair Pacheco
4. <b>Action</b> Pg. 6-17	<b>CONSENT AGENDA – ITEMS 4a-4c</b> See attached Consent Agenda.  <b>Overview:</b> These matters are routine in nature and are usually approved by a single vote. Prior to action by the Commission, the public will be given the opportunity to comment on any Consent Item.	Chair Pacheco F. González, E.D.
5. <b>Action</b> Pg. 18	<b>DEVELOPMENT AND RELEASE OF DIRECT SERVICE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES TO START FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024</b>	F. González, E.D. H. Norman, Staff
6. <b>Action</b> Pg. 21	<b>REFUGEE FAMILY SUPPORT AGREEMENTS WITH FOUR SUBCONTRACTORS</b>	F. González, E.D. H. Norman, Staff
7. <b>Action</b> Pg. 24	<b>ACCEPTANCE OF ADDITIONAL FUNDS FROM FRESNO CRADLE TO CAREER'S BLUE MERIDIAN PARTNERS GRANT FOR TWO PRECONCEPTION TO AGE 5 PROJECTS</b>	F. González, E.D. L. Ramírez, Staff
8. Information	<b>PARTNER SPOTLIGHT: QUALITY EARLY LEARNING AND CARE INITIATIVES</b>	F. González, E.D. L. Salcedo, Staff
9. Information	<b>EARLY CHILDHOOD POLICY UPDATE</b>	F. González, E.D. C.J. Hernandez, Staff
10. Information Pg. 26	<b>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT</b>	F. González, E.D.
11. Information	<b>PUBLIC COMMENT</b> Limit two minutes per speaker. Public Comment is also taken on individual agenda items throughout the meeting at the conclusion of each agenda item.	Chair Pacheco
12. Information	<b>ANNOUNCEMENTS / INFORMATION SHARING</b>	Chair Pacheco

ITEM	SUBJECT	PRESENTER
13.	<b>CLOSED SESSION</b> A. CLOSED SESSION - PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION Title: Executive Director	Chair Pacheco K. Price, Legal Counsel
14. Action	<b>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR COMPENSATION</b>	Chair Pacheco
15.	<b>ADJOURNMENT</b>	Chair Pacheco
<b><u>NOTE:</u></b>	<b>NEXT REGULAR MEETING – OCTOBER 26, 2022</b>	2405 Tulare St. Fresno, CA 93721

NOTE: If you need disability modification or accommodation in order to participate in this meeting, please contact the Commission office at (559) 558-4900 at least 48 hours prior to the start of the meeting. Government Code Section 54954.2(a).

# FIRST 5 FRESNO COUNTY

ADMINISTERED BY CHILDREN & FAMILIES COMMISSION OF FRESNO COUNTY

**DATE:** Wednesday, August 31, 2022

Lighthouse for Children

2405 Tulare Street

**TIME:** 11:30 a.m. – Regular Meeting

Fresno, CA 93721

## CONSENT AGENDA

(Any Commissioner may pull any Consent Item for discussion or separate vote.)

ITEM	SUBJECT	PRESENTER
<b>4a.</b> <b>Action</b> Pg. 7	<b>MINUTES FROM JUNE 22, 2022 REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING</b> Supporting Document	F. González, E.D.
<b>4b.</b> <b>Action</b> Pg. 10	<b>BIENNIAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE</b> Supporting Document	F. González, E.D. K. Price, Legal Counsel
<b>4c.</b> <b>Action</b> Pg. 16	<b>AGREEMENT WITH BAKER MANOCK &amp; JENSEN, PC FOR LEGAL SERVICES</b>	F. González, E.D. K. Rangel, Staff

We encourage the public to attend. If you have a disability and need accommodations to participate in a meeting, please contact the Commission office at (559) 558-4900 at least 48 hours prior to the start of the meeting. Government Code Section 54954.2(a).

**FIRST 5 FRESNO COUNTY**  
ADMINISTERED BY CHILDREN & FAMILIES COMMISSION OF FRESNO COUNTY

**REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING**

August 31, 2022 - 11:30 a.m.

2405 Tulare Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 2**

TO: Children & Families Commission of Fresno County  
FROM: Fabiola González, Executive Director  
SUBJECT: Resolution to Authorize Commission Participation Pursuant to AB 361

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Adopt a resolution authorizing the Commission to participate in meetings via teleconference so long as such actions comply with AB 361.

**BACKGROUND:**

On September 15, 2021, AB 361 was passed which includes the following:

Through December 31, 2023, AB 361 allows local agencies to continue to use COVID-19-era teleconferencing notice and meeting procedures as long as one of the following specific types of emergency exists:

- A. The legislative body holds a meeting during a proclaimed state of emergency, and state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing.
- B. The legislative body holds a meeting during a proclaimed state of emergency for the purpose of determining, by majority vote, whether as a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.
- C. The legislative body holds a meeting during a proclaimed state of emergency and has determined, by majority vote, pursuant to subparagraph (B), that, as a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.

The Governor, through Order N-11-22, has extended Order N-12-21 declaring a State of Emergency due to the impacts of COVID-19 through the duration of the emergency, so the Commission must make specific these findings every 30 days during the emergency when telephonic or virtual meetings are required: beginning on October 1, 2021:

- A. The legislative body has reconsidered the circumstances of the state of emergency.
- B. Any of the following circumstances exist:
  - i. The state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person; or
  - ii. State or local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing.

AB 361 prohibits local agencies from requiring public comments to be submitted prior to the meeting without also allowing real-time comment opportunities during the meeting. In addition, the new law allows third-party internet websites to collect names and other information from the public in order to participate in the meeting, but local agencies themselves are still prohibited from requiring such information to participate. Finally, if there is an internet or telephonic service disruption that prevents the agency from broadcasting the meeting, the agency may take no action until the broadcast is restored. Normal posting timelines for agendas still apply, as well as the roll-call vote requirement.

**CONCLUSION:**

The resolution attached to this staff report would accommodate all legislative bodies of First 5 Fresno County to participate in public meetings via teleconference pursuant to AB 361 for the period of August 31, 2022, through September 30, 2022.

## RESOLUTION NO. 2022-009

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MEMBERS OF THE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION OF FRESNO COUNTY ("FIRST 5 FRESNO COUNTY") ACKNOWLEDGING A LOCAL EMERGENCY, RATIFYING THE PROCLAMATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY BY N-12-21 ISSUED ON AUGUST 16, 2021 AND AUTHORIZING REMOTE TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS OF ALL LEGISLATIVE BODIES OF FIRST 5 FRESNO COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD FROM AUGUST 31, 2022 TO NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 30, 2022 PURSUANT TO BROWN ACT PROVISIONS.**

**WHEREAS**, the Children and Families Commission of Fresno County (the "Commission") is committed to preserving and nurturing public access and participation in meetings of the Commission; and

**WHEREAS**, all meetings of the Commission are open and public, as required by the Ralph M. Brown Act (Cal. Gov. Code 54950 - 54963), so that any member of the public may attend, participate, and watch the Commission conduct its business; and

**WHEREAS**, the Brown Act, Government Code section 54953(e), makes provisions for remote teleconferencing participation in meetings by members of a legislative body, without compliance with the requirements of Government Code section 54953(b)(3), subject to the existence of certain conditions; and

**WHEREAS**, a required condition is that a state of emergency is declared by the Governor pursuant to Government Code section 8625, proclaiming the existence of conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the state caused by conditions as described in Government Code section 8558; and

**WHEREAS**, a proclamation is made when there is an actual incident, threat of disaster, or extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the jurisdictions that are within First 5 Fresno County's boundaries, caused by natural, technological, or human-caused disasters; and

**WHEREAS**, it is further required that state or local officials have recommended measures to promote social distancing, or, the legislative body meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health and safety of attendees; and

**WHEREAS**, such conditions now exist, specifically, by the Governor's Order N-12-21, the Governor has extended the order declaring a State of Emergency due to the impacts of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, the County of Fresno has recommended continued social distancing to combat the imminent risk to the public health and safety due to COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, a member of the Commission has been in close contact with those diagnosed with COVID-19, and, if they attended a Commission meeting, they would likely expose the other Commissioners, staff and public to COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commission must meet, take action, and conduct business during the regularly scheduled meeting on August 31, 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commission does hereby find that such conditions have caused, and will continue to cause, conditions of peril to the safety of persons within Fresno County that are likely to be beyond the control of agency services, personnel, equipment, and facilities, and desires to acknowledge a local emergency and ratify the proclamation of state of emergency by the Governor of the State of California; and

**WHEREAS**, as a consequence of the local emergency, the Commission does hereby find that the legislative bodies of the District shall conduct their meetings without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of Government Code section 54953, as authorized by subdivision (e) of section 54953, and that such legislative bodies shall comply with the requirements to provide the public with access to the meetings as prescribed in paragraph (2) of subdivision (e) of section 54953; and

**WHEREAS**, First 5 Fresno County shall ensure that the public has the opportunity to participate live in all electronic meetings of the Commission during all public comment periods.

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION OF FRESNO COUNTY DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. Recitals. The Recitals set forth above are true and correct and are incorporated into this Resolution by this reference.

Section 2. Proclamation of Local Emergency. The Commission hereby proclaims that a local emergency now exists throughout Fresno County, and full in-person meetings could cause an imminent risk to the Commission members, staff and public.

Section 3. Ratification of Governor's Proclamation of a State of Emergency. The Commission hereby ratifies the Governor of the State of California's Proclamation of State of Emergency, effective as of its issuance date of August 16, 2021.

Section 4. Remote Teleconference Meetings. The agency staff is hereby authorized and directed to take all actions necessary to carry out the intent and purpose of this Resolution including, conducting open and public meetings in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e) and other applicable provisions of the Brown Act.

Section 5. Effective Date of Resolution. This Resolution shall take effect on August 31, 2022, and stay in effect at such time the First 5 Fresno County Commissioners adopts a subsequent resolution in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e)(3) to extend the time during which the legislative bodies of the District may continue to teleconference without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of section 54953.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Commission this 31st day of August, 2022 by the following vote:

**AYES:**

**NOES:**

**ABSENT:**

**ABSTAIN:**

# FIRST 5 FRESNO COUNTY

ADMINISTERED BY CHILDREN & FAMILIES COMMISSION OF FRESNO COUNTY

**DATE:** Wednesday, August 31, 2022

Lighthouse for Children

2405 Tulare Street

**TIME:** 11:30 a.m. – Regular Meeting

Fresno, CA 93721

## CONSENT AGENDA

(Any Commissioner may pull any Consent Item for discussion or separate vote.)

ITEM	SUBJECT	PRESENTER
<b>4a.</b> <b>Action</b> Pg. 6	<b>MINUTES FROM JUNE 22, 2022 REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING</b> Supporting Document	F. González, E.D.
<b>4b.</b> <b>Action</b> Pg. 9	<b>BIENNIAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE</b> Supporting Document	F. González, E.D. K. Price, Legal Counsel
<b>4c.</b> <b>Action</b> Pg. 15	<b>AGREEMENT WITH BAKER MANOCK &amp; JENSEN, PC FOR LEGAL SERVICES</b>	F. González, E.D. K. Rangel, Staff

We encourage the public to attend. If you have a disability and need accommodations to participate in a meeting, please contact the Commission office at (559) 558-4900 at least 48 hours prior to the start of the meeting. Government Code Section 54954.2(a).







Ayes: Davies-Balch, Gilbert, Morales, Sablan, Pacheco  
Noes: None heard.

**10. FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023 PROPOSED BUDGET & LONG-RANGE FINANCIAL PLAN**

Commissioner Morales requested that staff provide insurance coverage information at the next regular meeting.

Public Comment: None heard.

Motion by: Morales                      Second by: Sablan  
Ayes: Davies-Balch, Gilbert, Morales, Sablan, Pacheco  
Noes: None heard.

**11. AGREEMENT WITH ARCHER & HOUND ADVERTISING FOR WEBSITE REDESIGN SERVICES**

Public Comment: None heard.

Motion by: Morales                      Second by: Sablan  
Ayes: Davies-Balch, Gilbert, Morales, Sablan, Pacheco  
Noes: None heard.

**12. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Public Comment: None heard.

No action required.

**13. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Public Comment: None heard.

No action required.

**14. ANNOUNCEMENTS/INFORMATION SHARING**

Public Comment: None heard.

No action required.

**15. ADJOURNMENT**

Public Comment: None heard.

Motion by: Morales                      Second by: Sablan  
Ayes: Davies-Balch, Gilbert, Holt, Morales, Sablan, Pacheco  
Noes: None heard.

**FIRST 5 FRESNO COUNTY**  
ADMINISTERED BY CHILDREN & FAMILIES COMMISSION OF FRESNO COUNTY

**REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING**

August 31, 2022 - 11:30 a.m.

2405 Tulare Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEM NO. 4b**

TO: Children & Families Commission of Fresno County

FROM: Fabiola González, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Biennial Conflict of Interest Code

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Approve the updated Commission's Conflict of Interest Code.

**BACKGROUND:**

Under the Political Reform Act, all public agencies are required to adopt a conflict of interest code (the "COI Code") consistent with Fair Political Practices Commission regulations. The COI Code designates positions required to file Statements of Economic Interests (Form 700) and assigns disclosure categories specifying the types of interests to be reported. The Form 700 is a public document intended to alert public officials and members of the public to the types of financial interests that may potentially create financial conflicts of interests.

**REASON FOR RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

The Commission's Code, which is required to be updated bi-annually, is due for update and adoption.

This year, staff is recommending the addition of new positions and revising titles of existing positions to the current COI Code. Upon adoption, the Commission would forward the COI Code for approval to the Fresno County Board of Supervisors, which by statute is the Code reviewing body for all agencies located within Fresno County.

**CONCLUSION:**

After the Commission adopts the revised Conflict of Interest Code, it should direct staff to submit the Code to the Fresno County Board of Supervisors for approval. If the County requests modifications, staff would bring the COI Code back to the Commission for further consideration. Approval of the Code will ensure that the Commission is compliant with the Fair Political Practices Commission regulations.

CONFLICT-OF-INTEREST CODE FOR  
**CHILDREN & FAMILIES COMMISSION OF FRESNO COUNTY**

The Political Reform Act (Government Code Section 81000, et seq.) requires state and local government agencies to adopt and promulgate conflict-of-interest codes. The Fair Political Practices Commission has adopted a regulation (2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18730) that contains the terms of a standard conflict-of-interest code and may be incorporated by reference in an agency's code. After public notice and hearing, the standard code may be amended by the Fair Political Practices Commission to conform to amendments in the Political Reform Act. Therefore, the terms of 2 California Code of Regulations Section 18730 and any amendments to it duly adopted by the Fair Political Practices Commission are hereby incorporated by reference. This regulation and the attached Appendices designating positions and establishing disclosure requirements shall constitute the conflict-of-interest code of the **Children & Families Commission of Fresno County ("Commission")**.

The Form 700s for designated positions, other than **the members of the Commission ("Commission Members")** and the **Commission's Executive Director ("Executive Director")**, shall be filed with the Commission. The Commission Members and Executive Director are to file their original Form 700s directly with the Clerk of the Board for the Fresno County Board of Supervisors using the electronic filing system. If the Form 700s are not filed electronically, the paper Form 700 and waiver shall be filed with the Commission and, upon receipt of these paper Form 700s with waivers, the Commission shall make and retain a copy and forward the original to the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors.

The Commission shall retain a copy of all electronically filed Form 700s, a copy of all paper Form 700s with waivers, and the original Form 700s of designated positions not required to file electronically. The Commission shall make the Form 700s available for public review, inspection, and reproduction. (Gov. Code section 81008.)

The provisions of all Conflict of Interest Codes and amendments thereto previously adopted by the Commission are hereby superseded.

APPENDIX A  
PUBLIC OFFICIALS WHO MANAGE PUBLIC INVESTMENTS

It has been determined that positions listed below manage public investments and will file a statement of economic interests pursuant to Government Code Section 87200. These positions are listed for informational purposes only:

- Commission Members
- Executive Director
- Chief Financial/Business Officer
- Consultants involved in the investment of public funds

An individual holding one of the above-listed positions may contact the Fair Political Practices Commission for assistance or written advice regarding their filing obligations if they believe that their position has been categorized incorrectly. The Fair Political Practices Commission makes the final determination whether a position is covered by Government Code Section 87200.

APPENDIX B  
DESIGNATED POSITIONS

Designated Positions

Disclosure Categories

• Deputy Director	1
• <del>Director</del>	<del>1</del>
• <del>Project Manager</del>	<del>1</del>
• <del>Specialist</del>	<del>1</del>
• Legal Counsel	1
• Directors of Lighthouse for Children	1
• Consultants*	1

\* Consultants shall be included in the list of designated positions and shall disclose pursuant to the disclosure requirements in this code subject to the following limitation:

The Executive Director may determine in writing that a particular consultant, although a “designated position,” is hired to perform a range of duties that is limited in scope and thus is not required to comply fully with the disclosure requirements in this section. Such written determination shall include a description of the consultant’s duties and, based upon that description, a statement of the extent of disclosure requirements. The Executive Director’s determination is a public record and shall be retained for public inspection in the same manner and location as this conflict-of-interest code. (Gov. Code Sec. 81008.)



## APPENDIX C DISCLOSURE CATEGORIES

Individuals holding designated positions must report their interests according to their assigned disclosure category(ies).

### Disclosure Category 1

Interests in real property located within the jurisdiction or within two miles of the boundaries of the jurisdiction or within two miles of any land owned or used by the agency; and investments and business positions in business entities, and income, including loans, gifts, and travel payments, from all sources.

### Disclosure Category 2

Interests in real property located within the jurisdiction or within two miles of the boundaries of the jurisdiction or within two miles of any land owned or used by the agency.

### Disclosure Category 3

Investments and business positions in business entities, and income, including loans, gifts, and travel payments, from sources, that provide services, supplies, materials, machinery, or equipment of the type utilized by the agency.

### Disclosure Category 4

Investments and business positions in business entities, and income, including loans, gifts, and travel payments, from sources, that provide services, supplies, materials, machinery, or equipment of the type utilized by the designated position's division or department.

### Disclosure Category 5

Investments and business positions in business entities, and income, including loans, gifts, and travel payments, from sources, that filed a claim against the agency during the previous two years, or have a claim pending.

**FIRST 5 FRESNO COUNTY**  
ADMINISTERED BY CHILDREN & FAMILIES COMMISSION OF FRESNO COUNTY

**REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING**

August 31, 2022 - 11:30 a.m.

2405 Tulare Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEM NO. 4c**

TO: Children & Families Commission of Fresno County

FROM: Fabiola González, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Agreement with Baker, Manock & Jensen, PC for Legal Services

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Approve an agreement with Baker, Manock & Jensen, PC to provide legal services and representation to the Commission and Lighthouse for Children, Inc.

**BACKGROUND:**

On August 16, 2022, the Administrative Committee reviewed and approved this item to move forward for full Commission consideration.

The Commission first procured legal services in July 2008. Since then, the legal firm, Baker Manock, & Jensen, PC (BMJ) has been providing legal services and representation to the Commission. The last legal services procurement was performed in 2018 and BMJ was again selected based on their proven track record and expertise as it pertains to governing public agencies and specifically the Health and Safety Code that governs First 5 Commissions. The Commission awarded a one-year contract, with the option to renew for up to three additional years based on performance and availability of funds. The contract with BMJ expired on June 30, 2022.

**Procurement:** Administrative services of this type are usually procured at least every five years, unless it is deemed necessary to procure sooner. As a result, in May 2022, the Commission released a competitive Request for Quotations (RFQ) for legal services and forwarded the RFQ to approximately 30 legal firms across the region to legally represent both First 5 Fresno County and the Lighthouse for Children, Inc. In response to the RFQ, the Commission received two submissions. A panel of community reviewers with relevant experience scored the submissions, provided feedback and recommended BMJ to move forward for recommendation based on their existing partnership with the Commission, their experience and qualifications and reasonableness of cost.

Over the last 12 years, BMJ's team has proven to be valuable legal advisors to the Commission in the review, interpretation and utilization of statutes, rules, ordinances, resolutions, and governing board policies and procedures. Staff agrees with the review panel and recommends the Commission approve an agreement with BMJ to continue providing legal services for First 5 Fresno County and the Lighthouse for Children, Inc.

**Fiscal Impact:** Funding for these services has been allocated form the Commission's Fiscal Year  
Consent Agenda Item 4c

2022-2023 Approved Budget: Operating Expenses - Professional Services Expense line item in an amount not to exceed \$45,000 for a one-year contract, with the option to renew for up to five consecutive years at the discretion of the Commission.

**CONCLUSION:**

If approved, contract terms will be finalized with contractor to ensure the agreement is within budget constraints. In the event this agreement recommendation does not move forward, a discussion on an extension of current terms would follow to allow time for a new procurement opportunity to be released.

**FIRST 5 FRESNO COUNTY**  
ADMINISTERED BY CHILDREN & FAMILIES COMMISSION OF FRESNO COUNTY

**REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING**

August 31, 2022 - 11:30 a.m.

2405 Tulare Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 5**

TO: Children & Families Commission of Fresno County

FROM: Fabiola González, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Development and Release of Direct Service Funding Opportunities to start Fiscal Year 2023-2024

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Approve the development and release of funding opportunities under the 2020-2025 Strategic Plan for direct service programs focused on health, early learning and supports to families across Fresno County, in an amount not to exceed \$2,200,000 for two years with the option to renew agreements for an additional year based on performance and availability of funds.

**BACKGROUND:**

On August 16, 2022, the Finance and Program Review Committee reviewed and approved this item to move forward for full Commission consideration.

On June 19, 2019, the Commission approved First 5 Fresno County's 2020-2025 Strategic Plan. The plan highlights five crucial areas of investment including Direct Service Programs, which focus on community-based partnerships to provide parenting education, health promotion, early learning, and direct supports to families across the county. Subsequently, in May 2020 the Commission approved agreements with eight agencies, under the Thriving Families Request for Proposals funding opportunity to implement direct service contracts for two years with the option to renew for an additional year based on performance and availability of funds.

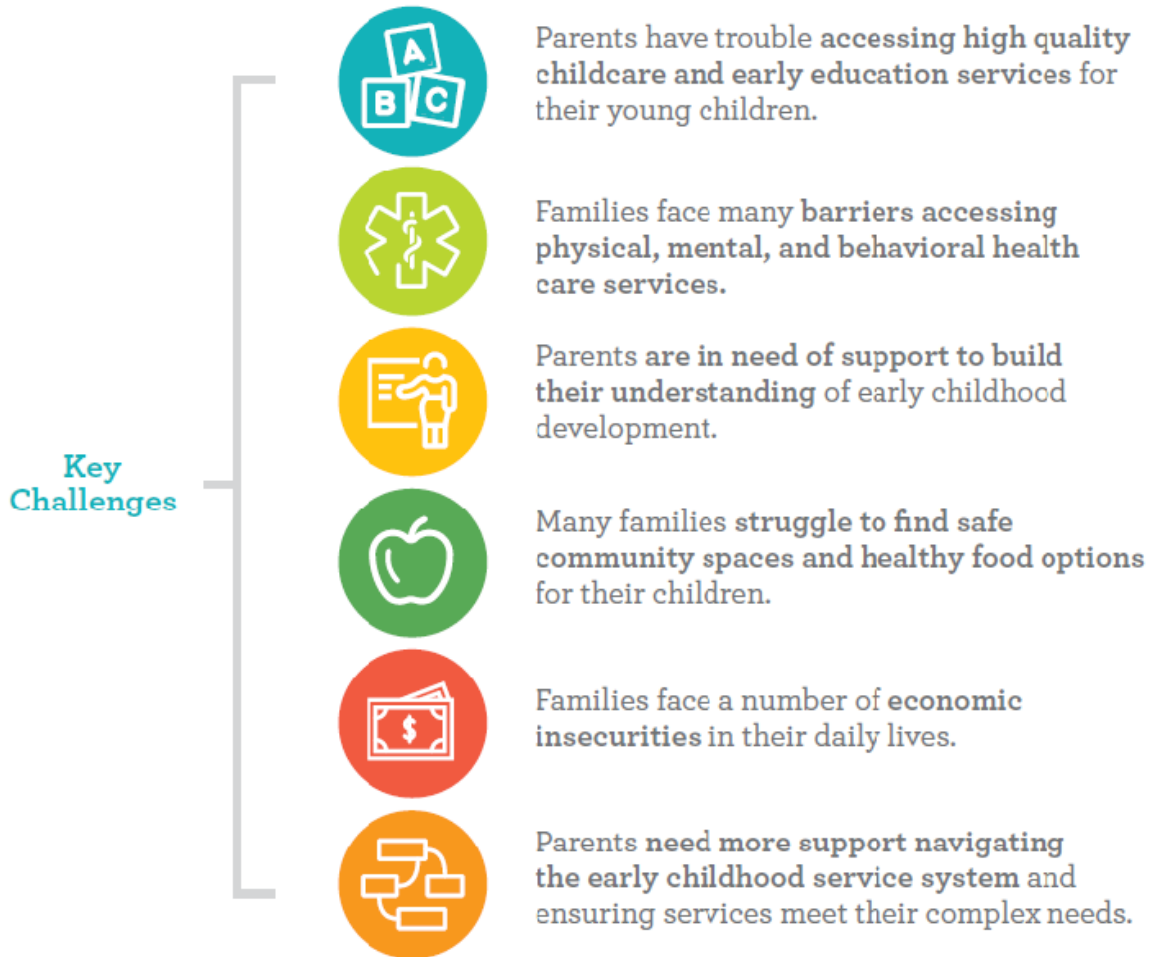
Since its inception, the Commission has invested its Proposition 10 allocation in local programs and services for young children and their families, including, but not limited to case management to support young parents, parent-child learning groups focused on healthy child development, family literacy engagement opportunities, parenting skill-building for parents/caregivers facing multiple challenges, child care provider trainings and assistance, and a host of other relationship-based services. Community-based, culturally and linguistically responsive services focused on families with young children remain critical, particularly in light of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on families' wellbeing.

With Fiscal Year 2022-2023 marking the third and final year of the Thriving Families agreements, it is staff's recommendation to release new direct service funding opportunities this fiscal year to support families with crucial services through Fiscal Year 2025-2026. If approved, these three-year funding opportunities would intentionally overlap with the development and first year of the

Commission's next strategic plan, reducing service disruption while the plan is finalized, and future funding opportunities are developed.

**Procurement:** Per the Commission's Administrative and Programmatic Procurement Policies and Procedures, staff propose a formal procurement process to select qualified partners to implement direct service programs supporting Fresno County families. Procurement will continue to align with the feedback received from families and community partners through the strategic planning process (**Figure #1 – Challenges facing Families**), as most, if not all of these challenges have been further amplified due to the economic, health and system impacts of COVID-19. Both current and new community partners would be eligible to apply.

**Figure #1 – Challenges facing Families identified in the 2020-2025 Strategic Plan**



**Alignment with Strategic Plan:** Direct Service Programs is one of the five core investment areas in the Commission's 2020-2025 Strategic Plan. Funding allocated for these community partnerships will support Fresno County families primarily through the strategic plan strategies of Skill-Building (Supporting professionals and parents to ensure they have knowledge and resources), Innovation and Learning (Confronting persistent community challenges through unconventional approaches), and Collaboration (Strengthening connections and information-sharing between partners in all sectors).

**Short-term goal(s) and long-term outcomes:** If approved procurement is anticipated to be released this winter. Recommended agencies would come to the Commission for final approval by June 2023, with contracts beginning July 1, 2023. The ultimate goal of this investment is

to partner with the community to provide quality, responsive and accessible services to support the wellbeing of children and families across the county.

**Fiscal Impact:** Funding will be allocated from the Commission's Assigned Fund Balance (\$1,041,754) and the 2022-2023 Approved Budget (\$1,158,246) in a total amount not to exceed \$2,400,000 for two years, with the option to renew agreements for one additional year based on performance and availability of funds.

**CONCLUSION:**

This recommendation will continue the Commission's investment in local agencies directly serving children and families in Fresno County. If the Commission determines not to move forward with authorizing procurement for Direct Service Programs, the Commission's current investment in direct service programs will term June 30, 2023 and new agreements for similar direct services will not be launched by July 1, 2023. The Commission's separate Direct Service Program investments in Glow! Group Prenatal Care, home visitation, and Neighborhood Resource Centers will continue as previously approved.

**FIRST 5 FRESNO COUNTY**  
ADMINISTERED BY CHILDREN & FAMILIES COMMISSION OF FRESNO COUNTY

**REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING**

August 31, 2022 - 11:30 a.m.

2405 Tulare Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 6**

TO: Children & Families Commission of Fresno County

FROM: Fabiola González, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Refugee Family Support Agreements with Four Agencies

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Approve agreements, as part of the First 5 California Refugee Family Support funding opportunity, with four refugee serving agencies to bring additional support and resources to refugee families with young children across the central region in a total amount not to exceed \$438,093 for one year.

**BACKGROUND:**

On August 16, 2022, the Finance and Program Review Committee reviewed and approved this item to move forward for full Commission consideration.

On March 23, 2022, First 5 California (F5CA) released a competitive Refugee Family Support Request for Application (RFA) to support refugee families with young children resettling in counties throughout California. This 12-month competitive funding opportunity was designed solely for First 5 county commissions to apply in partnership with local county refugee-serving organizations. Funds were required to support families in the following areas: 1) socio-cultural adjustment and system navigation; 2) short-term emergency child care; and/or 3) emergency housing.

Following Commission approval, First 5 Fresno County submitted an application for the RFA, as the fiscal lead agency in partnership with Kings, Kern, Merced, Madera, Stanislaus and San Luis Obispo Counties. On June 10, 2022, F5CA notified the Commission of their intent to award our application in an anticipated amount of \$570,357 for one year. On June 22, 2022, the Commission approved the acceptance of funds from F5CA for this funding opportunity and for staff to enter into contract negotiations with refugee serving agencies across the Central Valley region.

As part of the RFA submission, F5CA required all applicants to partner with at least one refugee-serving organization/agency. Through a regional application design process, a total of four primary refugee family serving agencies were identified and participated in the application development and submission (see Table #1). As a result of these partnerships, approximately 70 refugee families with young children will receive expanded culturally and linguistically responsive case management services, peer and social connection opportunities, and connections to basic resources as needed.

Table #1

Proposed Refugee Serving Agency Subcontractors for FY 2022-2023		
Agency	Agency Description	One-Year Amount*
#1	Bethany Christian Services A global nonprofit that supports children and families with world-class social services, all designed to help families thrive.	up to \$18,722
#2	International Rescue Committee Turlock A nonprofit that provides opportunities for refugees, asylees, victims of human trafficking, survivors of torture, and other immigrants to thrive in America.	up to \$180,991
#3	Fresno Interdenominational Refugee Ministries A faith-based nonprofit that serves refugees in the Fresno area of the California San Joaquin Valley.	up to \$202,509
#4	SLO4Home A broad coalition of religious organizations, veteran and active-duty military members and community activists who are helping Afghan refugees establish new lives and livelihoods on the Central Coast.	up to \$35,869
Total Amount for One Year:		up to \$438,093

*\*Note: Funding amounts vary per agency based on the number of families to be served and the scope of services to be provided. The Finance and Program Review Committee approved this item move forward for full Commission consideration with the caveat that the final amounts may be subject to minor change based on ongoing negotiation. To this end, the amounts in Table #1 received minor updates following the Committee meeting based on budget negotiations with each agency.*

**Alignment with Strategic Plan:** This funding opportunity aligns with the Direct Service Programs Core Investment Area of the Strategic Plan. Funding will support refugee families primarily through the strategic plan strategies of Skill-Building (supporting professionals and parents to ensure they have knowledge and resources) and Collaboration (strengthening connections and information-sharing between community partners in all sectors).

**Short-term goal(s) and long-term outcomes:** If approved, staff will continue to work with the refugee family serving agencies listed in Table #1 to finalize agreements with an anticipated start date of September 1, 2022. The long-term desired outcome is to increase support to refugee families across the region with culturally responsive, trauma-informed services and supports.

**Procurement:** The proposed subcontractors were identified through the External Grant Opportunity process in accordance with the Commission’s approved Administrative and Programmatic Procurement Policies and Procedures.

“From time to time, the Commission may apply for competitive grant opportunities and submit such applications within a short window of time. On such occasions, the Commission may, at its discretion, partner with contractors selected without a competitive process.”

In this case, the proposed subcontractors and services are products of a series of community RFA planning sessions and conversations with First 5 commissions, refugee family serving agencies, and community partners from across the central California region invested in serving young children and



their families, to compile a timely and quality application for this one-year multi-county funding opportunity adhering to First 5 California's requirements.

All proposed subcontractors must comply with the Commission's approved policies including, but not limited, to the Faith-based Funding Policy which states that the Commission will not fund/support religious activities and/or activities that appear to promote a particular religious belief over others by way of its funding practices.

**Fiscal Impact:** On behalf of the aforementioned six Central region counties, the Commission was awarded \$570,357 from First 5 California for this RFA. The total amount of \$438,093 allocated to refugee family support agencies will be funded entirely through First 5 California. No local Proposition 10 funds will be utilized in administering this grant. Along with the subcontracts, \$132,264 of the funds from First 5 California will go to First 5 Fresno County for staff time to administer the contract and subcontracts and coordination of grant details including but not limited to the disbursement of funds to families/partners who participate in evaluation activities. The F5CA award will be incorporated in the budget revision at the end of the calendar year to the FY 2022- 2023 Agency Budget under Externally Funded Initiatives.

**CONCLUSION:**

If approved, these partnerships will allow the Commission to bring additional support and resources to local and regional refugee families with young children, all of whom have experienced recent trauma. By partnering with neighboring county commissions and agencies, the Commission will create an opportunity for smaller counties to access these resources and expand support to families who may move across counties within the grant period. If the Commission does not approve this item, it will be challenging to meet First 5 California's requirement of partnering with refugee family serving agencies to serve the anticipated number of families within the 12 month time frame starting September 1, 2022.

**FIRST 5 FRESNO COUNTY**  
ADMINISTERED BY CHILDREN & FAMILIES COMMISSION OF FRESNO COUNTY

**REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING**

August 31, 2022 - 11:30 a.m.

2405 Tulare Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 7**

TO: Children & Families Commission of Fresno County

FROM: Fabiola González, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Acceptance of Additional Funds from Fresno Cradle to Career's Blue Meridian Partners Grant for two Preconception to Age 5 Projects

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Approve, the acceptance of additional funds from the Fresno Cradle to Career Partnership to support Glow! Group Prenatal Care and the Fresno GROWS - Best Babies Zone Initiative in a total amount of \$49,346 for one fiscal year, and augment agreements with two Fresno GROWS partners, in an amount not to exceed \$21,046 for one year.

**BACKGROUND:**

On August 16, 2022, the Finance and Program Review Committee reviewed and approved this item to move forward for full Commission consideration.

In January 2021, the Fresno Cradle to Career Partnership (C2C) was awarded \$6.7 Million from the Blue Meridian Partners, a national network of funders, to support ongoing local efforts in the preconception to age 5 space connected to the Fresno DRIVE Initiative. In March 2021, the Commission accepted \$380,000 of these funds to enhance supports from the Commission for the Glow! Group Prenatal Care and Support Program and the Fresno GROWS - Best Babies Zone Initiative for two years. Glow! is an innovative group prenatal care program that incorporates wrap-around services with enhanced prenatal care, and Fresno GROWS is a place-based effort prioritizing interventions in four census tracts (2,7,9,02,10) in the 93706-zip code to reduce African American preterm birth and infant mortality.

In early 2022, Fresno Cradle to Career notified Commission staff of an additional \$49,346 in funding available to support these two efforts in fiscal year 2022-2023. The proposed allocation of these additional dollars is shown in **Table #1**.

Table #1

Initiative	Agency	Primary Project Role/Activities	Proposed additional/Blue Meridian allocation for FY 2022-2023	Total additional Blue Meridian Support for FY 2022-2023
Glow! Group Prenatal Care and Support Program	First 5 Fresno County	Support Medical Provider retention and onboarding	\$28,300	\$28,300
Fresno GROWS - Best Babies Zone	Fresno EOC	Training and travel for one Community Champion and indirect costs	\$2,211	\$21,046
	Kelley Community Relations and Consulting, LLC	Support the launch of phase two of the second Black Maternal Wellness Innovation Lab cohort and implement identified interventions with the support of the lead consultant and birth justice advocates	\$18,835	
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$49,346</b>	

**Procurement:** Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission (Fresno EOC) and Kelley Community Relations and Consulting, LLC (formally known as Sabrina Kelley, MPH Consultant) were originally procured in 2021 using a sole source process in accordance with the Commission’s approved procurement policies.

**Fiscal Impact:** Additional funding support for the two initiatives would total \$49,346 for the 2022-2023 fiscal year. Of that, \$28,300 would be allocated to Glow! and \$21,046 to the Fresno GROWS Best Babies Zone Initiative. The proposed use of grant dollars is to enhance activities in both initiatives and offset a portion of the Commission’s current investment in these initiatives.

**CONCLUSION:**

If approved, staff will work with all involved community agencies to update scopes of work, budgets, and disbursement of funds. The allocation of funds from Blue Meridian Partners through the Fresno Cradle to Career Partnership will support optimal maternal health and early childhood experiences as critical markers for our community’s wellbeing and will enhance the Commission’s commitment to the expansion of the Glow! Group Prenatal Care and Support Program and the place-based efforts focused on West Fresno neighborhoods through the Fresno GROWS - Best Babies Zone initiative.

**FIRST 5 FRESNO COUNTY**  
ADMINISTERED BY CHILDREN & FAMILIES COMMISSION OF FRESNO COUNTY

**REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING**

August 31, 2022 - 11:30 a.m.

2405 Tulare Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 10**

TO: Children & Families Commission of Fresno County

FROM: Fabiola González, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Executive Director's Report

**Lighthouse for Children (LFC) Activities & Operations Update**

- On July 14<sup>th</sup>, we held a press conference to promote the launch of a recurring vaccine clinic at the LFC, focused on young children. We had over 20 families join us for the day to vaccinate their little ones, including many Lighthouse Child Development Center families. We were joined by Fresno County Superintendent-Elect, Michele Cantwell-Copher, UCSF's COVID-19 Equity Project, Doctor Jessica Martin Moreno and our Commission Chair, Supervisor Brian Pacheco. In partnership with the UCSF team, we are assessing the clinic frequency to maximize resources, staff capacity, and outreach to families throughout the fall and winter seasons.
- Approximately six weeks after the pediatric vaccine became available, we updated our masking guidance at the LFC facility. As of August 1<sup>st</sup>, masks are no longer required, but strongly recommended upon entrance to the facility. However, in alignment with state mandates which are still requiring masking in healthcare settings, masking is still in effect for speech therapy services.

**General Administration**

- On August 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, Commission staff held our annual offsite in-person meeting to prepare for the upcoming major projects during this fiscal year. We use the time together to review pertinent policies and explore necessary changes/additions to our processes to best meet the needs of our partners – particularly given our upcoming direct services funding opportunities.

**Local and Statewide Involvement in Early Childhood Efforts**

- In my role as the Vice-President for the First 5 Association of California's Board, I chaired the Search Committee tasked with finding the next Executive Director for the Association. Happy to share, Avo Makdessian has been hired as the new Executive Director starting August 29, 2022. Avo brings a wealth of expertise in advocacy, grantmaking, research, and community outreach – all of which will be put to use in his new role.
- On August 11<sup>th</sup>, alongside community partner Jewel of Justice, we hosted a Fresno County African American Infant and Maternal Mortality Prevention convening focused on centering voices of Black Women practitioner and health care providers. Thirty plus participants from various organizations shared their experiences and wisdom about the challenges and opportunities in serving Black birthing women and their families. Many of those in attendance walked away motivated to center the experience of Black families in new ways in their work.

- On August 30<sup>th</sup>, Congressman Jim Costa visited the Lighthouse for Children to participate in a Home Visiting Roundtable. In partnership with the Home Visiting Network, the Commission welcomed Congressman Costa to learn about the impact home visitors have in Fresno County and how collectively we work to leverage federal dollars to serve as many families and children as possible. We encouraged Congressman Costa to continue to be an ally for home visitors and to carry the stories of the families with him to Congress.

### **Media and Community Relations**

- Our Infant Safe Sleep Public Education and Awareness Campaign dubbed, “*Sleep Safe Baby*” will launch on September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022! The campaign will include social media presence, billboards throughout the county, a website with digital resources, and outreach partnerships with community-based organizations in an effort to create broad community awareness about safe infant sleep practices. We are thankful to the community partners that have offered time, wisdom and expertise to the contracted firm, Butler Branding to ensure the campaign is grounded in community voice.
- In the month of July, I Had the opportunity to be featured on K-Jewel’s 99.3 FM Community Friend PSA campaign. Listeners heard us promoting the value of child-friendly workplaces that are proven to have a positive impact at work including higher productivity, less turnover, and employee loyalty.

### **June Meeting Follow-ups**

As requested, below are the types of insurance coverage the First 5 Fresno County Commission acquires on an annual basis:

Special Liability Insurance - (commercial general liability, errors & omissions, auto)  
 Special Property Insurance – (property and boiler & machinery coverage)  
 Master Crime Insurance  
 Worker’s Compensation Insurance

Note: Each type of insurance has various categories of coverage.