

March 5, 2010



Champions For Our Children

Dear Prospective Applicant:

On behalf of First 5 LA, I am pleased to present this Request for Proposals (RFP) for the fourth and final cycle of First 5 LA's Community Opportunities Fund (COF). For this cycle we are seeking qualified organizations interested in working with First 5 LA staff and the Commission to implement organizational capacity building activities that contribute to the priorities of the Commission.

In 2007, First 5 LA established COF in order to support organizational capacity building and policy and advocacy efforts by community organizations to improve conditions for children, families and communities. To date COF has made it possible to provide grants on a range of capacity building activities across Los Angeles County. First 5 LA recognizes that community agencies are critical partners in helping to create a society where children are valued and given the best start possible in life.

In the previous COF cycle, First 5 LA invested in policy and advocacy projects. In our continued efforts to create effective and sustainable change for young children and their families, grants through COF's fourth cycle will solely fund organizational capacity building activities. Funding these activities will contribute to the long-term vision of the Commission.

While First 5 LA will continue to fund direct service supports for communities through our new FY 2009-2015 Strategic Plan, these types of services are not eligible for funding through COF. Please carefully read the COF definitions of organizational capacity building to ensure your agency's interests are appropriate for this fund. Please refer to the attached RFP for proposal requirements.

Interested applicants must complete and submit their proposal and all required documents to First 5 LA **no later than 5:00 pm on April 16, 2010**. The proposal, including required attachments must be submitted online at www.first5la.org/COF. Please submit the Signature Authorization and Agency Litigation Forms to:

Evelyn V. Martinez, Executive Director

First 5 LA

750 N. Alameda Street, Suite 300

Los Angeles, CA 90012

Attention: Community Opportunities Fund

For additional information or further questions, please e-mail: COF@first5la.org. Thank you for your dedication to the children and families of Los Angeles County and for supporting the vision and mission of First 5 LA.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Evelyn V. Martinez". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Evelyn V. Martinez
Executive Director

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A public entity.