Item 4

Conceptual Framework – Building Stronger Families Framework
BEST START: Building Stronger Families, Building Strong Children

Background

In spring 2013, First 5 LA embarked upon an important inquiry process related to the implementation of Best Start. Best Start, a cornerstone of First 5 LA’s Strategic Plan for 2009-15, is intended to improve the lives of young children and their families by positively impacting the systems and environments in which they live, learn, and play. The purpose of the Best Start inquiry is to achieve clarity and a common understanding of:

- The results for children and families that First 5 LA and its community partners seek through this place-based effort
- How progress toward desired intermediate and long-term results will be measured
- The program strategies related to Best Start’s goals
- How the strategies and activities work together to support young children.

Methodology

An interdepartmental team was convened to develop a framework anchored in clearly defined results for children and their families. Informed by input from First 5 LA’s Board of Commissioners, Best Start experience to date, learning from the 14 Best Start Community Partnerships, and research, the team developed a “Building Stronger Families” framework. This framework puts accountability for improved outcomes at the center of Best Start and is strongly supported by research and promising practices.

Paradigm Shift

Approved by the First 5 LA Board of Commissioners as a part of the Strategic Plan for 2009-15, Best Start represents an important paradigm shift in First 5 LA’s approach to improving outcomes for children, moving from an initiative- to place-based focus. Best Start is not a program that focuses on specific problems that families face and/or a specific set of services needed to “solve” problems. Rather, it represents an approach that focuses on families in the context of where they live and all they need to thrive and succeed. The Building Stronger Families framework represents an important refinement of Best Start, articulating the core results we seek and how we plan to achieve those results.

Best Start’s Building Stronger Families framework is designed to build strong families through the community-wide imperative of supporting parents. First 5 LA believes that if families are strong and communities are healthy, then children will experience better long-

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1 “Parents” also includes single parents, caregivers, legal guardians and foster parents.
term outcomes. We believe that building strong children is the product of parents and community partners, service organizations, the early childhood workforce and systems-level and policy change. Best Start will contribute to First 5 LA’s efforts to build strong children through a place-based approach that focuses on promoting the qualities of strong families and healthy communities that are most closely associated with improved child outcomes.

The Goals We Seek for Young Children: Building Strong Children

Frederick Douglass said in the late 1880's, "It is far easier to build strong children than to repair broken men." First 5 LA is in the business of building strong children who are prepared to succeed in the classroom, at the workplace, and in life. First 5 LA’s broad goals define strong children as those who:

- Are born healthy
- Maintain a healthy weight
- Are safe from abuse and neglect
- Are ready for kindergarten

First 5 LA recognizes that Best Start must be both aspirational and focused. Anchored in the broad goals we seek for children, Best Start will focus on intermediate outcomes and strategies where: there is research and experience to support the relationship between activities and family- and child-level outcomes; change is possible within the proposed 5-10 year timeframe and level of resources available to Best Start; parents and community partners are active participants in creating change; and, progress can be measured.

The two overarching goals for Best Start represent those conditions that are essential to ensuring that children are healthy and prepared to succeed at school entry:

1. Families support the healthy development, school readiness, and well-being of children.
2. Communities support and promote the healthy development and well-being of families with young children.

Building Strong Children by Strengthening Families

"Strong families” are those that support and promote optimal child well-being. Research and evidence-based practices have identified key characteristics of a “strong family”. These characteristics, which relate to parents and expectant parents, are also known as family strengthening “protective factors”. When present, these factors are tied to child health, safety and school readiness – First 5 LA’s goals for young children - and include three core family results:

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2 Concept of protective factors is based on work done by the Center for the Study of Social Policy since 2001 studying the role that early care and education programs nationwide could play in strengthening families and preventing abuse and neglect.
1. Families demonstrate resilience, parental knowledge, and positive relationships that support their children’s social and emotional competence.
2. Families participate in positive social networks that provide multiple opportunities for mutual support and leadership development.
3. Families access concrete supports that meets their needs.

The protective factors were initially correlated with reduced incidence of child abuse and neglect in the research. Over time, a broader research base has shown the factors’ contribution to the broader domains of child well-being, including cognitive, physical, emotional and social development. In short, parental capacity and strength is foundational to improving child outcomes beyond child safety.

These factors highlight the fact that even though the child may be the beneficiary of a strong community and receive high quality services, the parents are what directly impact that child’s well-being. Therefore, Best Start strategies that promote strong families build and support the ability of parents to effectively care for and promote the healthy development, school readiness, and well-being of young children. Home visitation is one such strategy, with outcomes proven to result in improvements in protective factors. Other evidence-based and promising strategies to promote strong families, such as breastfeeding, reading daily and other parent-child interacting and bonding activities, are closely associated with improved outcomes for young children.

**Building Strong Children by Promoting Communities that Support Families with Young Children**

Just as children thrive in the context of strong families, families thrive in the context of neighborhoods and communities that support parents’ ability to raise their children, providing them with the support, services and opportunities they need. The Building Stronger Families framework recognizes that there are many places in which and ways that families develop strengths and that, simply put, place matters. Families themselves build the protective factors, but the neighborhoods and communities in which they live provide the context and opportunities for parents to strengthen parental capacity, promote social connections, and provide concrete supports – to build the protective factors associated with improved child outcomes.

Many characteristics of a “healthy community” contribute to children’s well-being. Research linking neighborhood characteristics with child well-being, while at an early stage, spreads across multiple domains and tends to focus on social capital (e.g., the networks and associations among people and families that provide a sense of belonging, trust, mutual aid and civic engagement); human capital (e.g., the knowledge, skills and
behaviors that are characteristic of community residents); community safety; environmental health; and availability of community resources (including social and health services, as well as informal recreational and cultural facilities).

As Best Start works to strengthen communities so that they, in turn, will strengthen families, it is important to be focused. Best Start will concentrate on community-level activities where: the research and experience support a link between community activities and improved results for families; change is possible (within the level of resources Best Start can generate through its own and partners’ investments); and progress can be measured.

Informed by those factors, Best Start will help communities develop the capacity to organize and take action to achieve **three core community results:**

1. Neighborhoods and communities establish a common vision and act collectively to improve the policies, services and environments that build family protective factors and influence the availability and quality of concrete services.
2. Neighborhoods and communities establish and sustain opportunities for families to interact regularly in positive social networks and safe community spaces that encourage social interaction and promote healthy living.
3. Neighborhoods and communities develop and sustain services and supports that meet family needs, including high quality services and opportunities for educational success.

These intermediate outcomes reflect Best Start’s recognition that results for families – and, therefore, child well-being - are shaped by communities’ ability to take action and support strong families, promote positive social connections, and assure access to high quality services, supports and opportunities. Best Start also recognizes that no two communities are alike; that community collaborative efforts will evolve at their own pace; and those communities may adopt a variety of activities to achieve similar goals.

Achieving better results for young children is a shared aspiration and shared responsibility. Lessons from other place-based initiatives demonstrate the importance of strategies that support the ability of communities to align with other initiatives, organize and focus on community efforts to support child and family well-being. Best Start strategies support communities with the skills, tools and resources to chart a common vision for strengthening families. Building strong children and families is more likely to occur when community stakeholders come together to support families, use data to inform choices of interventions, engage parents as leaders in improving the lives of young children, and maintain accountability for their actions. A “relentless focus” on family- and community-level results – not process - by high-functioning relationships among many partners can help ensure that multiple actions on behalf of families come together within a community and add up to brighter futures for young children. The active participation of parents in such collaborative efforts is particularly powerful, engaging parents with other parents, connecting parents with service providers, and involving parents as decision-makers in their communities.
The Systems Connection

First 5 LA’s approach to building stronger families – grounded in evidence-based attributes known as the “protective factors” – represents a systematic way to impact large numbers of young children and their families. By working to incorporate these factors into existing programs and services – such as early childhood education - First 5 LA and its Best Start community partners can contribute to change in organizational policy and practice across different systems and settings community- and county-wide. As an example, the L.A. County Strengthening Families Learning Community, facilitated by the Office of Child Care in the Service Integration Branch of the Chief Executive Office, is working to support the integration of the protective factors within the County service delivery system to improve client and community outcomes, and maximize resources. Other public agencies in the County, such as Los Angeles Unified School District, are advancing place-based demonstration projects that connect families with young children to a continuum of care that emphasizes prevention and wellness. The County Department of Mental Health’s “health neighborhoods” initiative is another place-based initiative with strong alignment with the Best Start Building Stronger Families framework. By working collaboratively with both county agency and Best Start community partners, First 5 LA can help facilitate and promote learning and linkages across communities and systems and alignment of results for families.

Best Start communities exist in and are supported by a broader context of systems, policy and funding. This includes the mandates and structures through which health and human services are provided in LA County, as well as the economic, philanthropic, and policy environment and the public will around issues related to children and families. Strong, coordinated and responsive systems and investments are critical to responding to gaps in services and supports that meet family needs, including high quality services and opportunities for economic and educational success. Informed by the work of Best Start community partnerships, First 5 LA’s grantees and its governmental, philanthropic, business and other partners will work together to ensure that the systems, policy and funding context supports Best Start’s contributions and, together, “move the needle” to strengthen families and improve results for children.

Measuring Progress Toward Desired Goals

The Best Start Building Stronger Families (BSF) framework is grounded in the results we seek for families and communities. In order to know if First 5 LA and Best Start communities are making a difference and making progress toward those results, First 5 LA will define and use an Accountability Framework that is anchored in the our overarching core family and community results: results that align with First 5 LA’s broad goals to
ensure that young children are born healthy, maintain a healthy weight, are free of abuse and neglect and are ready for kindergarten.

The Best Start Accountability Framework is composed of four levels of measurement that will provide a clear assessment of progress towards our intended results.

**Level One: Population Conditions**

The first level consists of monitoring critical Population-Based indicators for Los Angeles County and the individual Best Start communities. These measures provide the Commission with important contextual information that helps us understand how and why progress is or is not being made. For example, indicators that measure health status, poverty, and exposure to environmental hazards are important to monitor and understand the types of conditions families are experiencing. First 5 LA and the respective Best Start communities will not be held accountable for making changes to these complex conditions. Decreasing poverty, increasing housing stock, reducing environmental toxins and ameliorating chronic health conditions for children 0-5 are beyond the scope of the Commission, yet they are factors that affect the everyday lives of families in Los Angeles County and understanding how they impact communities can be valuable.

**Level Two: Core Results for Communities**

The second level of the Best Start Accountability Framework is centered on the core community results, which reflect the ability of Best Start communities to support the healthy development and well-being of families with young children. Specifically the Commission will track progress toward the core community results - improving the system of services and supports, promoting safe community places and spaces, and moving toward a shared vision and collective action that contributes to the building of stronger families. The Commission will work in partnership with communities and experts to identify a meaningful set of indicators to measure these results.

**Level Three: Core Results for Families**

The third level will focus on measuring progress in the most critical aspect of our work – families. This work will center on tracking progress made in achieving the core family results – strengthening family capacities, social connections and concrete supports. The evidence supporting the value of these core results and their relationship to our four goals is strong and more literature demonstrating these links is being published and disseminated each month.

**Level Four: Performance Measures and Learning**

Finally, the fourth level of measurement is geared toward Performance Measurement and Learning. This allows First 5 LA and the Best Start Communities the ability to track key performance milestones that ensure the investments are being implemented as planned and with highest levels of quality and efficiency possible. This work helps the Commission
understand how much was done, who and how many were involved and what happened during those activities. Indicators such as numbers of families served, families engaged in community collaborations, types and numbers of activities taking place in the communities are some examples of the types of performance measures that would be monitored. In addition, measures would be developed to track the degree to which community collaborations (such as the community partnerships) and First 5 LA are effectively carrying out their respective roles.

First 5 LA has developed a robust set of indicators based on research that are included in a document called The Best Start Results Framework. The indicators are specific to the core results for communities and families that were described earlier. First 5 LA intends to further refine the indicators, in collaboration with communities and research experts, to create a more manageable set of indicators that are evidence-based, representative of the results, and grounded in the work we do.

To make the Accountability Framework meaningful and useful to First 5 LA and the Best Start Communities, a structure will be developed to bring timely results into the decision making and implementation process. This feedback mechanism will allow First 5 LA and Best Start communities the opportunity to refine strategies and activities, prioritize resources and make critical adjustments to improve our collective ability to achieve the results we seek. Input and collaboration with communities will be essential to this work.

First 5 LA will be working to create a more comprehensive evaluation plan that will serve as the more detailed blueprint for accountability.

Summary

As a results-oriented, community-based approach, Best Start focuses on improving family and child outcomes in association with the places where families live, work and play. Best Start's strongest focus will be on contributing to the conditions that allow parents to do the best possible job in providing their children with what they need in order to thrive. In neighborhoods where the challenges to families and to child development can be high, Best Start will: focus on families most in need; support the creation of unique partnerships among families, community organizations of many types, service providers, other funders and many others; and better measure the effect of Best Start investments - all toward achieving better outcomes for children 0-5.

Children and families living in the communities we serve face daunting challenges. Best Start represents a place-based approach to building strong children, an approach driven by experience and supported by research that children thrive when they live in safe and strong families that are supported by the communities around them.

To fully maximize the potential of Best Start, First 5 LA will need to address implementation considerations informed by the experience of other community change efforts and the lessons learned during the first three years of Best Start implementation.
Examples key considerations include:

- The timeline to accomplish the intended results of Best Start
- The geographic scale of the fourteen Best Start Communities and supported activity
- The types of activities that will be supported
- The business model(s) to support the work of the communities
- The financial resources available to support activity within the FY 2009-2015 Strategic Plan.

Additionally, First 5 LA will need to carefully consider the application of the Building Stronger Families framework to all of its current and future investments with an eye towards greater strategic focus, integration, and impact on the results we seek: strengthening families and promoting healthy communities to build strong children.
The following table presents the two overarching results, six core results and population-based indicators proposed as a framework for Best Start LA. The core results are those improvements in the well-being of families and communities seen as most central to ensuring that parents have the knowledge, skills, supports and resources to promote the optimal development of their children. The table includes an assessment of the strength of each core result in relation to the two overarching results, which is based on a review of relevant research.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Result Cluster</th>
<th>Core Family Results</th>
<th>Strength as Predictor of Overarching Result</th>
<th>Baseline Data Available at Best Start Community Level</th>
<th>New Indicators to be Developed/Collected</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family Capacities</td>
<td>1. Families demonstrate parental resilience, knowledge of parenting and child development, and positive relationships that nurture their children’s social and emotional competence</td>
<td>Strong Predictor</td>
<td>● % of women who exclusively breastfeed their infants for at least the first 6 months</td>
<td>• % of parents who answer at least 50% of research-based statements about child development correctly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>● % of families who read to their children every day</td>
<td>• % of parents who report feeling confident in their parenting skills</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>● % of parents who praise their child every day</td>
<td>• % of families who regularly eat meals together</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>● % of parents who show physical affection to their child every day</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>● % of parents (including pregnant women) who are at risk for depression</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>● % of pregnant women who smoke</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>● % of parents who experience low to moderate aggravation with their children</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Connections</td>
<td>2. Families participate in positive social networks that provide multiple opportunities for mutual support and leadership development</td>
<td>Strong Predictor</td>
<td>● % of parents who feel that they have someone to talk to when they need advice on how to raise their child</td>
<td>• % of parents who report that people in their neighborhood help each other out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>● % of residents who have moved within the last five years</td>
<td>• % of parents who report that people in their neighborhood watch out for each other’s children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• % of parents who report that people in their neighborhood can be counted on in times of need</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Overarching Result #1 - Families support the healthy development, school readiness, and well-being of their children

<table>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Concrete Supports</td>
<td>3. Families access concrete support that meets their needs, including high quality services and opportunities for economic and educational success</td>
<td>Strong Predictor</td>
<td>• % of parents who believe that if their child was outside playing and got hurt or scared, that there are adults nearby who the parent would trust to help their child</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Overarching Result #2 – Communities support and promote the healthy development and well-being of families with young children.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Result Cluster</th>
<th>Core Community Results</th>
<th>Strength as Predictor of Overarching Result</th>
<th>Baseline Data Available at Best Start Community Level</th>
<th>New Indicators to be Developed/Collected</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>System of Services and Supports</td>
<td>4. Communities have a system of services and supports that meet family needs</td>
<td>Strong Predictor</td>
<td>• % of parents who report that during their child's first year, a professional (such as a nurse or social worker) visited their home to provide information about parenting</td>
<td>• # of local policies supporting/promoting breastfeeding that are adopted and implemented</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• % of parents who needed childcare and who found it very or somewhat easy to obtain.</td>
<td>• Expenditures on public welfare, health and hospitals, police and fire protection, parks and recreation, sewerage and solid waste management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• # of local children's service providers</td>
<td>• % of households reporting poor levels</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Overarching Result #2 – Communities support and promote the healthy development and well-being of families with young children.

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</table>
| Community Spaces and Places | 5. Communities have physical places and spaces that promote healthy living and encourage interaction | Strong Predictor | per 1,000 children ages 0-5  
• # of local support group providers per 10,000 children ages 0-5  
• Ratio of licensed child care seats to number of children 0-5 (child care supply/demand)  
• # of local nonprofit organizations per 1,000 children ages 0-5  
• Contributions to local nonprofits per capita ages 0-5  
• Prenatal, maternal and pediatric grants received by local nonprofits per 10,000 children 0-5  
• % of First 5 LA investment per capita children 0-5 relative to other funding sources  
• Local nonprofit expenditures per capita ages 0-5 | of city or county services |

- % of parents who report having a park, playground or other safe place for their child to play that they can get to easily
- Square miles of parks and open space with open access per 100,000 children ages 0-5
- % of parents who report using a nearby park, playground or other safe place to play at least once in the previous two weeks
- # of local grocery stores per 1,000

- % of parents who feel that the following places and things are available to children in their neighborhood: (a) Sidewalks or walking paths; (b) A recreation center, community center, or boys’ and girls’ club; (c) A library or bookmobile
- % of parents who often feel that their child is safe in their community or neighborhood.
- % of households reporting unsatisfactory grocery shopping in
## Overarching Result #2 – Communities support and promote the healthy development and well-being of families with young children.

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</table>
| Shared Vision and Collective Action | 6. Communities have a shared vision and act collectively to improve the policies, services and environments that impact families | Strong Predictor | children ages 0-5  
- # of libraries per 10,000 children 0-5  
- Farmer’s markets per capita children 0-5  
- Food facilities rated “C” or below per square mile | their neighborhood  
- Expenditures on natural resources, parks, and recreation  
- % of residents who give their community a positive rating in how well people work together to improve their community  
- # of parents of children 0-5 who are actively engaged in community building efforts  
- % of residents reporting that they performed unpaid volunteer activities in the previous 12 months  
- # of local policies adopted and implemented that support/promote improvements in the built environment that strengthen social connections, learning, physical activity, and healthy food options.  
- % of residents reporting social control (PSID-CDS; Chicago Neighborhood Study) |
Best Start Building Stronger Families Framework

Best Start Commission Retreat
June 26, 2013
Best Start Inquiry

Achieve clarity and common understanding of the following:

- Core results for families and communities
- Strategies that will be used
- How the strategies will achieve the core results
- How progress will be measured
Best Start: A Place-based Approach

- Best Start is **not** a program that focuses on specific problems that families face or a specific set of services needed to “solve” problems for individual families.
- Best start is a place-based approach that focuses on strengthening families and the social and physical environments where they live, work, and play.
Best Start is not the typical government or foundation funded program, which merely supplies a fraction of the needed financial resources for direct services….Best Start gives the community the skills, tools and resources they need to, in effect, chart their own future.

- Best Start Community Partnership Member
I now see the goal of Best Start is not a band aid; it’s a cure.

- Best Start Parent
Best Start Inquiry

• Greater focus
• Evidence/promising practices
• Clear results
• Accountability
Building Stronger Families Framework

• Families are central to ensuring that children are healthy, safe and prepared for school
• Families thrive in the context of communities that provide them with support, services and opportunities to connect with one another
Families support and promote the healthy development, school readiness and well-being of young children.
Family Capacities

• Able to effectively manage everyday stress in daily life, responsibilities and parenting
• Act on accurate information about children’s developmental needs
• Respond warmly and consistently and develop positive relationships that nurture their children’s social and emotional competence
I didn’t know I had to read to my child; I learned how important this is.

- Best Start Parent
Families support and promote the healthy development, school readiness and well-being of young children.
Social Connections

• Receiving and providing emotional, informational, instrumental or spiritual support through a network of friends, neighbors, family members and others

• Support for reducing stress, solving problems, and sharing the joy, pain and uncertainties that come with the parenting role
East LA is sometimes viewed as desert and Best Start has helped bring us parents together to support each other and lend each other a helping hand – like bringing water to create an oasis.

- Best Start Parent
Families support and promote the healthy development, school readiness and well-being of young children.
Concrete Supports

• Being able to identify, find and receive basic necessities for your family
• Seeking help when necessary; knowing where to turn in a crisis
• Learning to navigate service systems to get specialized services as needed for children or parents
I am single mother of three children, two of them have autism. When I joined Best Start I didn’t know how to help my children. Best Start parents supported me and helped me find resources…I found my voice and I am now a support to other parents.

-Best Start Parent
Communities support and promote the healthy development and well-being of families with young children.
System of Service and Supports

• Families have access to a system of services and supports that meets their needs

• Community services and supports are grounded in building protective factors for families

• Informal supports may be more important than services for most families
I’m part of the mental health agency, which has been here for 31 years. We were not in collaboration with other agencies but now we are working with them.

-Best Start Community Partner
Communities support and promote the healthy development and well-being of families with young children.

- Coordinated services and supports
- Community places and spaces
- Shared vision and collective action
Community Places and Spaces

- Families have access to safe places and spaces that promote healthy living and encourage social interaction.
Parent mobilization through Best Start made it so parents can go to the park and feel comfortable. Children are now exercising and they have access to a park parents could not go to before….We are also going to talk with police to monitor the park to keep our park safe.

- Best Start Parent
Communities support and promote the healthy development and well-being of families with young children.
Shared Vision and Collective Action

- Families actively participate in community networks
- Community members have a shared vision and act collectively to improve the policies, services and environments that impact families
One of the most valuable things provided by Best Start is the opportunity to develop leadership and know our voice is valuable.

-Best Start Parent

Best Start has been a vehicle for residents and organizations to come together to affect change.

-Best Start Community Partner
Strategic Plan Strategies

- Direct Services (Family Strengthening)
- Community Capacity Building
- Systems Improvement
Criteria for Activities

• Align with the core results for families and communities
• Are evidence-based or promising practices
• Outcomes are achievable and measurable within 5-10 years
• Offer the potential for resource mobilization and sustainability
## Strategies & Activities

### Direct Services
- Home Visitation
- Parent Coaching and Education
- Public Education related to Direct Services
- Parent Support Approaches
- Family Engagement in Early Care and Education Programs

### Community Capacity Building
- Community Partnerships
- Community Engagement
- Community Integration and Organization Capacity Building
- Improvements in the built environment

### Systems Improvement
- Impact and Influence on Public Policy
- Public Education
- Workforce Development
- Resource Mobilization and Investments
- Information, Resources and Referral
- Health Access
- Data Systems Integration
Measuring Progress
(How we will know we are making a difference)

Accountability Framework for Best Start

Level 1: Population Conditions
Level 2: Core Results for Communities
Level 3: Core Results for Families
Level 4: Performance Measures and Learning
Key Indicators for the Accountability Framework

What we will be using to measure our progress

Accountability Level 1: Population Conditions
(measured to provide context)

EXAMPLE INDICATORS:

• % of children 0-5 with chronic medical conditions
• % of parents of children 0-5 who smoke
• % of children 0-5 living in poverty
Accountability Level 2: Core Results for Communities

EXAMPLE INDICATORS

System of Services and Supports
- % of parents who report that during their child’s first year, a professional (such as a nurse or social worker) visited their home to provide information about parenting
- % of parents who needed childcare who found it very or somewhat easy to obtain

Community Spaces and Places
- % of parents who report having a park, playground or other safe place for their child to play that they can get to easily

Shared Vision and Collective Action
- % of residents who give their community a positive rating in how well people work together to improve their community
## Accountability Level 3: Core Results for Families

### EXAMPLE INDICATORS

#### Family Capacities
- % of parents who answer at least 50% of research-based statements about child development correctly
- % of families who read to their children every day

#### Social Connections
- % of parents who report that people in their neighborhood help each other out
- % of parents who feel that they have someone to talk to when they need advice on how to raise their child

#### Concrete Supports
- % of parents who know where to go when they feel they need assistance helping their child learn
Accountability Level 4: Performance Measurement & Learning

EXAMPLE INDICATORS

• #of families served
• #of families engaged in First 5 LA community activities
• Capacity of the Community Partnerships to carry-out their roles
When will the results be observable?

Community

Neighborhood

Program Participants

Investment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years</th>
<th>FY13-14</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>3-5</th>
<th>5-7</th>
<th>7-10+</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Improvements in:
- Performance Measures
- Community Results
- Family Results
- Systems
Best Start 1.0 vs. Best Start 2.0
What’s Different?

• Clear definition of success
• Grounded in evidence/promising practices
• Articulation of the relationship between results, strategies and activities
• Accountability Framework
Connection to our L3 Work

External forces influence strategic focus and integration

- Leadership & Governance
- Internal Systems & Infrastructure
- External Relationships
- Programs/Initiatives (Including Best Start)
- Strategic Focus, Impact & Role
Discussion

• What about the Building Stronger Families Framework is most compelling to you?

• Does this framework move Best Start forward in the right direction?

• Can you support the Best Start Framework’s core family and community results?

• Does the concept of a menu of activities make sense? If so, are the criteria acceptable?

• If First 5 LA tracks results at these four levels, does that provide the Board with the information you most want to know about Best Start?