

Summary of Commission Actions



Champions For Our Children
www.First5LA.org

Meeting of August 28, 2014

Final Civil Grand Jury Response Approved

The Commission unanimously approved a letter that accepts the recommendations of the Los Angeles County Civil Grand Jury's 2013-14 report. The letter completes the record with additional information so that the public benefits from a more complete and transparent view of First 5 LA's work on behalf of children 0-5 in L.A. County. Click [here](#) for more information.

Board Approves Support of Nonprofit Sustainability Initiative with CCF

The Board approved the establishment of a Strategic Partnership with California Community Foundation for an amount not to exceed \$400,000 and authorize staff to execute a contract from September 1, 2014 to July 30, 2015.

This investment is aligned with First 5 LA's FY 2009-15 Strategic Plan's strategies of resource mobilization and organizational capacity building and represents an opportunity to leverage significant private dollars. The funding supports the second cohort of the [Nonprofit Sustainability Initiative](#), or NSI, a collaborative of 10 funders, led by CCF, the Weingart Foundation and the Ralph M. Parsons Foundation, working together to fund Los Angeles County nonprofit organizations interested in exploring and pursuing strategic restructuring.

First 5 LA's \$400,000 investment would be matched with \$1.2 million from NSI's collaborative of funders.

Nonprofits need to find a way to work more effectively and deliver more services with greater impact and less revenue. NSI's goal is for selected nonprofit organizations to enter into partnerships that ultimately lead to greater organizational effectiveness and efficiency. Strategic restructuring options range from jointly managed programs and consolidated administrative functions to full-scale mergers.

The need for capacity building efforts, in particular those offered by NSI, is based on [recent evaluations](#) of the nonprofit sector. Since the end of the 2008 financial crisis, nonprofit organizations have reported dramatic increases in service demand coupled with declining public support. At the same time, there has been an explosive growth in the sector, with approximately 41,500

Highlights

- Final Civil Grand Jury Response Approved
- Partnership With CCF Established to Support Nonprofit Sustainability Initiative
- Commission Agrees to Extend Data Mining Partnership With Public Health Foundation Enterprises

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registered nonprofits operating in L.A. County, the highest number among all U.S. counties.

Strategic restructuring allows two or more nonprofit organizations to establish an ongoing relationship to increase the administrative efficiency and/or further the programmatic mission through shared, transferred or combined services, resources or programs.

Commission Agrees to Extend Data Mining Project

The Board approved the extension of a Strategic Partnership with Public Health Foundation Enterprises (PHFE) for an amount not to exceed \$446,000 from October 1, 2014 to September 30, 2015 to support a [data mining project](#) that collects critical data about the status of low-income families with children ages 0–5 in Los Angeles County.

In 2002, First 5 LA partnered with PHFE, the largest provider of the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) in L.A. County to create the Data Mining Project, which provides administrative data on over 550,000 WIC participants.

First 5 LA also provides support for a survey, conducted every three years, of a sample of WIC mothers in L.A. County. The [data](#) collected from these two efforts provide comprehensive information to health planners, policy makers and community leaders about local families in need– a crucial first step to better serving this vulnerable population.

211 Developmental Screening Contract to Expire; Matching Funds Conditionally Approved

First 5 LA's current contract for the [211 Developmental Screening and Care Coordination Project](#) (DSCCP), which First 5 LA has funded since 2012, will expire September 30, 2014, consistent with the Board-approved Governance Guidelines.

In addition, the Commission authorized the Executive Director to enter into a contract to provide First 5 LA funds as a one-to-one match of funds received from the State Department of Developmental Services (DDS) up to \$200,000 for the operating expenses of the 211 DSCCP on the condition that the State funds must be secured by October 1, 2014.

The First 5 LA Board of Commissioners is comprised of 17 members (nine voting, four ex-officio, four alternates). The board includes voting members appointed by each of the Los Angeles County supervisors and the L.A. County departments of Children and Family Services, Public Health and Mental Health. The Chairman of the L.A. County Board of Supervisors also serves as Chairman of the First 5 LA Commission. The Board also includes representatives from other educational, children and families organizations throughout the county. The Board of Commissioners meets on the second Thursday of each month at 1:30 p.m. unless otherwise indicated at the First 5 LA offices. All meetings are open to the public and agendas are posted [here](#) at least 72 hours in advance.