BEST START
REGION 5
REGIONAL AND LOCAL NETWORK PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS
THE REGIONAL AND LOCAL NETWORK PHILOSOPHY

Children's Bureau of Southern California (Children's Bureau), in partnership with SBCC Thrive LA, has an approach grounded in a guiding philosophy — to build community capacity by expanding and strengthening relationships among community residents, linking them to supportive individuals, organizations, opportunities and resources, and increasing protective factors. The team's own experience and evaluation efforts have demonstrated that fostering a sense of community and connectedness, and a genuine commitment to resident-led and resident-owned civic engagement result in lasting community transformation and institutional changes.

The regional and local network partners are guided by a set of shared values:

- Openness • Honesty • Analysis
- Respect • Transparency • Diversity in Leadership
- Authenticity to the Voice of the Community

The regional and local network brings over 50 years of combined experience working in partnership with parents, residents, and groups across Los Angeles County and parts of Orange County. Building on their knowledge and expertise, they understand the importance of utilizing local resources more effectively, increasing local buy-in and ownership, and promoting greater collaboration and sustainability so that the partnerships can continue to be vehicles for change within their communities.
Assumes responsibility for managing the grant with First 5 LA, fulfilling all administrative requirements, managing subcontracts with all partners, and ensuring integrity to Best Start values, parameters and principles.

Assesses the capacity needs of itself and its subcontractors and providing support as needed to ensure that all parties involved are continually and proactively seeking to improve the performance of their respective roles.

Facilitates regular learning activities across communities within the region as well as participates in First 5 LA learning and evaluation activities, including the Best Start Learning Agenda.

Coordinates and maximizes opportunities to connect the work of the community partnerships within the region to each other and to similar efforts at the local, regional, and/or countywide levels.

Coordinates and supports opportunities to bring together the community partnerships in the region when cross-community efforts are needed in pursuit of common goals or in response to (or support of) external policy or systems change endeavors.

Attracts and leverages regional, countywide, state and federal resources (funding, donations, and volunteer time) and relationships to support the work of the community partnerships beyond First 5 LA funding.
Locals Network Roles & Responsibilities

**Coordination & Support**
- Provides all of the logistical support needed to plan, facilitate and hold community partnership meetings, activities and events. Also monitors the local landscape to identify opportunities for collaboration and integration with similar efforts.

**Data, Learning & Improvement**
- Incorporates the use of data, regular reflection, and learning at the local level and coordinates with the regional network grantee to support regional learning. Also participates in First 5 LA learning and evaluation activities, including the Best Start Learning Agenda.

**Capacity Building & Leadership Development**
- Models effective practices, provides real-time coaching and arranges for targeted technical assistance as needed to support individual and collective abilities to influence policies and systems that impact children and families in their community.

**Communications & Outreach**
- Supports the development and implementation of communications strategies that build the partnerships' brand and visibility regionally and locally.

**Resident and Stakeholder Engagement & Advocacy**
- Supports the development and implementation of strategies that facilitate social connections and engage parents and residents in the work of the community partnership.

**Community-Identified Projects**
- Supports the ongoing planning, implementation, and reflection of projects identified by the community partnership to achieve the desired community change results.

**Local Resource Mobilization**
- Attracts and leverages local resources (funding, donations, volunteer time) and relationships to support the work of the community partnerships beyond First 5 LA funding.
ABOUT THE REGIONAL AND LOCAL NETWORK PARTNERS

**Children’s Bureau** was established in 1904 with the mission to protect vulnerable children through prevention, treatment, and advocacy. Children’s Bureau offers innovative, child abuse prevention services and programs designed to nurture the child, strengthen the family and build caring communities. Children’s Bureau is the largest investor in child abuse prevention in the country and is developing a national model to transform an entire at-risk community through its Magnolia Community Initiative. Children’s Bureau is one of only a handful of nationally accredited agencies in Los Angeles and has been serving the Antelope Valley since 1984.

Children’s Bureau’s work overseeing Family Resource Centers exemplifies their expertise providing multi-level coordination. Since 1997, the agency has been the lead agency providing training and technical assistance to Family Resource Centers and family support organizations throughout Southern California. This work enhances the growth and development of staff, programs, organizations and networks that strengthen families and communities.

**SBCC Thrive LA’s** mission is to reduce economic and social inequality in historically marginalized communities through relationship-based community organizing and authentic resident-driven civic engagement. The mission is anchored in SBCC’s core belief that sustainable social impact must be resident-led and community-driven. SBCC has empowered individuals, strengthened families, and transformed communities in partnership with community residents for more than four decades. SBCC focuses on four impact areas: relationship based community-organizing, pathways to self-sufficiency for youth and adults, child development and early education, and family well-being. The organization operates throughout Los Angeles County and in all eight service planning areas, reaching 10,000 individuals and families annually. SBCC also has collaborative relationships with other agencies. For example, through its work as the lead agency for the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services Prevention and After Care Network in SPA 8, it convenes up to 80 community-based organizations to work toward a vision of strengthening families through traditional social services and innovative programs that promote family economic independence. Through its work, SBCC Thrive LA promotes local leadership so residents become active agents of change. SBCC has created and supported over 250 Neighborhood Action Councils (NACs) across Los Angeles County. Their focus is to ensure they provide communities with meaningful and impactful outcomes that result in strong, resilient, empowered, and economically self-sufficient families.