

FIRST 5 KERN
KERN COUNTY CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Regular Meeting
Monday, December 14, 2020
Zoom Videoconferencing Format
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82436444939?pwd=Mi9QbThHSThOTzhwbEdpbyt5TEJlZz09>

MINUTES

COMMITTEE CONVENED @ 9:03 A.M.

ROLL CALL

Committee Commissioners: Wood (Chair), Judd, Nilon, Richers,
Committee Members: Nieblas-Valenzuela, Ram, Silva, Truelson
Committee Members Absent: Apple, Chairez, Christopher, Dumlao, Guzman, Starika, Wood-Slayton

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

- 1) None

REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 2) Chairperson's Report and Report from the Commission
 - Commissioner Woods reported she attended the virtual First 5 Association Summit and stated it was unique, interesting, and a little difficult to follow. Commissioner Wood stated she attended the Help Me Grow workshop and it was interesting to hear about the program in comparison to where we are in Kern County and suggested the TAC have a look at this program in the future.

(Committee member Chairez entered the meeting 9:10 A.M.)

- 3) Committee Members Report - None
- 4) Executive Director's Report
 - Mr. Maier reported the state's first Master Plan on early child development was released and encouraged all to read it.
 - Mr. Maier reported the analysis from the First 5 Association on the Master Plan is strong for children three to five and not as strong for zero to three. The goal is to improve the first three years. The Master Plan was tied into transitional kindergarten, and the Preschool for All initiative which are really being pushed at the state level.
 - Mr. Mair reported a member from the First 5 Association, and First 5 California, and all 58 counties, penned a letter to Governor Gavin Newsome requesting more emphasis on children zero to three.



- Mr. Maier reported he would like to meet with the full Commission before or after the February Commission meeting in a workshop format to talk about priorities for the next year.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

5) Minutes of the December 16, 2019 and June 15, 2020 meetings – APPROVED

Motion by Commissioner Nilon

Second by Commissioner Judd

All Ayes

DISCUSSION

6) Systems Building at First 5 Kern

- Hector Gutierrez, First 5 Kern, Strategic Initiatives Specialist, introduced and gave a brief bio of himself and a snapshot of his current projects.
- Mr. Gutierrez reported First 5 Kern applied for and received a grant from First 5 California for the Home Visiting Action Plan Coordination. The hope is to develop an action plan to strengthen home visiting efforts across Kern County.
- Mr. Gutierrez reported First 5 Kern along with UCLA applied for and received a healthy eating research grant. The funds will be used to look at sugar sweetened beverages and unsafe drinking water across the Central Valley.
- Mr. Gutierrez reported the Department of Health Care Services in partnership with the California Surgeon General's office released a Request for Proposal (RFP) for a second round of ACEs Aware grants. There are two types of grants available, network of care planning and network of care implementation. The grants will target California communities that want to build or execute a robust network of care to effectively respond to ACEs and toxic stress to meet the needs of children, adults, and families. First 5 Kern submitted an RFP for network of care implementation.
- Mr. Maier reported First 5, the Board of Supervisors, African American churches, and other partners throughout Kern County are collaboratively working with the Black Infant Health program, targeting assistance with low-birth-weight infants and fetal mortality.

7) COVID -19 Updates – Roundtable Discussion

- Commissioner Judd reported the hospitals continue to see growth in admissions with the corona virus. Admitted into the hospital over the last three weeks there were four patients, two weeks ago, up to 15 patients, last week 20 plus patients, and now 30 patients are at Kern Medical. The trauma activation is the biggest concern, we have seen 20% steady growth, in the number of traumas which take ICU beds. We are licensed for 24 ICU beds. Currently, there are 30 patients needing ICU care. Only four of them are COVID related. Other hospitals are seeing the same increase. The biggest concern is not space, it is staffing. An ICU nurse is paid \$175 an hour during this surge. Kern Medical is looking to hire 10 nurses. Kern Medical has enough health care equipment,

personal protective equipment, and ventilators. There is a shortage on gloves. The hospital finds them hard to keep in stock.

- Commissioner Nilon reported both of his sons are COVID positive, but they are healthy and doing well.
- Commissioner Judd reported 1,000 doses of the COVID-19 vaccine will be received tomorrow and in two weeks another 1,000 doses.
- Committee member Silva reported they are status quo. The Kern Family Health Care staff is still working remotely from home until April 2021. Also, it has been hard to reach their members, making it difficult to educate them and encourage them to access preventive care services. This is partially due to the scare of the corona virus.

ADJOURNMENT @ 9:34 A.M.

- 8) Adjourned to Monday, March 15, 2021, 8:30 A.M., 2724 L Street, Bakersfield