

FIRST 5 KERN
KERN COUNTY CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Regular Meeting
Monday, June 21, 2021

Zoom Videoconferencing Format
<https://zoom.us/j/92206139021?pwd=bHQ2R3orbTR4dzB3eWpRKzU0K2h5Zz09>

MINUTES

COMMITTEE CONVENED @ 8:34 A.M.

ROLL CALL

Committee Commissioners present: Wood (Chair), Carrigan, Richers

Committee Commissioner absent: Judd

Committee Members present: Chairez, Nieblas-Valenzuela, Ram, Shaw, Silva, Wood-Slayton

Committee Members absent: Apple, Curioso, Erickson, Dumlao, Irwin, Mena, Moser, Starika

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

- 1) NONE

REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 2) Chairperson's Report and Report from the Commission
 - Commissioner Wood reported on the Commission meeting of June 7, 2021.
- 3) Committee Members – NONE
- 4) Executive Director's Report
 - Mr. Maier reported our goal today is to have a presentation and an open discussion on Racial Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (REDI). First 5 Kern staff Hector Gutierrez, Strategic Initiative Specialist, and Anastasia Lester, Program Officer, will lead the discussion.
 - Mr. Maier reported bills are being heard in the policy committee and have until July 14th to pass out. He stated that early childcare, paid family leave, and the extension of postnatal care for an additional twelve months was top of the list.
 - Mr. Maier reported all county First 5's was asked by First 5 California and the First 5 Association of California to submit letters of support for assembly bills benefitting children zero to five and their families, and First 5 Kern did that.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

- 5) Minutes of the March 15, 2021, meeting
 - HELD OVER TO THE SEPTEMBER 21, 2021, MEETING DUE TO LACK OF QUORUM.



DISCUSSION

6) Racial Equity Diversity and Inclusion (REDI) Discussion

- Hector Gutierrez, Strategic Initiatives Specialist, and Anastasia Lester, Program Officer, gave a PowerPoint presentation on Advancing Racial Equity and Justice for Children and Families.
- Mr. Gutierrez created small breakout focus groups with the members posing the questions:
 - ✓ What ideas do you have to advance equity for children and families in Kern County?
 - ✓ Where should First 5 Kern focus its efforts when it comes to equity issues
 - ✓ What policies, programs, or system change opportunities do you see could be leveraged in Kern County to advance racial equity and justice?
- The two break out groups reported out on their discussions
- Next steps per TAC members:
 - ✓ TAC and Commission continue equity conversations
 - ✓ Develop an equity implementation plan to address equity
 - ✓ Understand local needs and partner with communities to implement programs and policies to support our most vulnerable
 - ✓ Develop training opportunities and engagement with communities
 - ✓ Have a platform or space accessible for resources
 - ✓ Connect families to resources that help connect them to their needs
 - ✓ Focus on systems solutions and focus on equitable systems
 - ✓ Focus on tools and capacity building opportunities to lift equity where possible
 - ✓ First 5 Kern being a catalyst around equity. Bring diverse tables together and step into a convener role.
 - ✓ First 5 training opportunities – top to bottom.
 - ✓ Help build equity champions at all levels of the county
 - ✓ Bring back some suggestions on how we can train our internal groups to support racial equity.
 - ✓ Develop a TAC workgroup/task force to consider equity and help define the parameters to bring in an equity consultant for First 5 Kern.
 - ✓ Consultants can help support the following efforts (sampling)
 - Adopting an equity statement/value.
 - Exploring how equity shows up in our investments.
 - Conduct an equity landscape analysis and support operationalizing equity.
 - Identify equity needs as necessary.
- Plan an equity conference for Kern County and bring systems partners together.
- Focus on Help Me Grow as a strategy to advance equity for children of Kern County.
- Build a diverse workforce. Ensure employers in Kern have staff representing the “targeted populations” we are serving in the community.
- Address inequality in Kern County. An example of inequality is preconception

care for families throughout the different regions of the county.

- 7) COVID-19 Roundtable
 - Committee members gave an update on how their organizations are currently dealing with COVID-19.

ADJOURNMENT

- 8) Adjourned to Monday, September 20, 2021, 8:30 A.M., 2724 L Street, Bakersfield