

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CALIFORNIA CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION

Fiscal Year 2023-2024



Table of Contents

Annual Report AR-1 Kern Revenue and Expenditure Summary	1
Revenue Detail	1
Improved Family Functioning	2
Improved Child Development.....	2
Improved Child Health	3
Improved Systems of Care	4
Expenditure Details.....	4
Other Financing Details	4
Net Change in Fund Balance.....	4
Fiscal Year Fund Balance.....	5
Expenditure Note	5
Annual Report AR-2 Kern Demographic Worksheet	6
Population Served	6
Primary Languages Spoken in the Home.....	6
Race/Ethnicity of Population Served.....	6
Duplication Assessment	7
Annual Report AR-3 Kern County Evaluation Summary and Highlights	8
Evaluation Activities Completed, Findings, and Policy Impact	8
County Highlight.....	10

Annual Report AR-1
Kern Revenue and Expenditure Summary
July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024

Revenue Detail	
Category	Amount
Tobacco Tax Funds	\$7,269,573
IMPACT Legacy	\$430,378
Small Population County Augmentation Funds	\$0
Home Visiting Coordination Funds	\$40,785
Refugee Family Support Funds	\$0
Other First 5 California Funds	\$0
Other First 5 California Funds Description – N/A	
Other Public Funds	\$632,273
Other Public Funds Description – Kern County Behavioral Health & Recovery Services in support of the Help Me Grow Kern County program (\$261,554). Department of Human Services in support of the Early Intervention Services program (\$182,993) and the Family Resource Center Mini Grants (\$187,726).	
Donations	\$0
Revenue From Interest Earned	\$512,308
Grants	\$40,500
Grants Description – Community Action Partnership of Kern support of Case Management Training (\$1,500) and Kern Health Systems to support Family-Engaged Developmental Monitoring (\$39,000).	
Other Funds	\$267,389
Other Funds Description – Other Financing – Building Lease (GASB 87).	
Total Revenue	\$9,193,206

Improved Family Functioning

Service	Grantee	Program(s)	Children	Caregivers	Providers	Amount
General Family Support	CBO/Non-Profit	• Core Operating Support	2,027	3,915	69	\$882,621
General Family Support	County Office of Education/School District	• Core Operating Support	2,646	4,795	19	\$1,206,849
Intensive Family Support	CBO/Non-Profit	• Not Applicable	408	496	0	\$480,354
Intensive Family Support	County Office of Education/School District	• Not Applicable	2,297	1,732	0	\$565,000
Total						\$3,134,824

Improved Child Development

Service	Grantee	Program(s)	Children	Caregivers	Providers	Amount
Quality Early Learning and Care Supports	County Office of Education/School District	• Not Applicable (IMPACT Legacy)	733	0	161	\$456,777
Early Learning and Care Program Direct Costs	CBO/Non-Profit	• Preschool/Childcare	91	71	0	\$363,050
Early Learning and Care Program Direct Costs	County Office of Education/School District	• Preschool/Childcare	474	527	46	\$513,385
Early Learning and Care Program Direct Costs	Other Public	• Preschool/Childcare	206	262	0	\$375,865
Total						\$1,709,077

Improved Child Health

Service	Grantee	Program(s)	Children	Caregivers	Providers	Unique Families*	Amount
General Health Education and Promotion	Hospital/Health Plan	• Not Applicable	517	132	0	0	\$225,723
General Health Education and Promotion	County Office of Education/ School District	• Safety Education	179	137	0	0	\$16,000
General Health Education and Promotion	Other Public	• Safety Education	317	62	0	0	\$27,142
Oral Health Education and Treatment	County Office of Education/ School District	• Not Applicable	2,450	280	0	0	\$924,706
Early Intervention	CBO/Non-Profit	• Mild-to-Moderate Supports	59	52	0	0	\$253,982
Early Intervention	CBO/Non-Profit	• Not Applicable	37	0	12	0	\$52,777
Early Intervention	County Health & Human Services	• Care Coordination and Linkage	526	0	0	0	\$44,747
Early Intervention	County Office of Education/ School District	• Mild-to-Moderate Supports	135	190	0	0	\$188,747
Early Intervention	Other Private/For Profit	• Mild-to-Moderate Supports	48	0	0	0	\$150,000
Perinatal and Early Childhood Home Visiting	County Health & Human Services	• Not Applicable (Black Infant Health)	59	84	0	84	\$111,176
Perinatal and Early Childhood Home Visiting	County Health & Human Services	• Nurse Family Partnership	86	96	0	96	\$550,082
Total							\$2,545,082

*Unique Family counts are required under Service Area Perinatal and Early Childhood Home Visiting only.

Improved Systems of Care

Service	Grantee	Programs	Amount
Policy and Public Advocacy	First 5 County Commission	• Not Applicable	\$1,738,566
Policy and Public Advocacy	CBO/Non-Profit	• Not Applicable	\$38,550
Policy and Public Advocacy	Other Private/For Profit	• Not Applicable	\$3,736
Systems Building	CBO/Non-Profit	• Early Identification and Intervention	\$256,718
Systems Building	Other Private/For Profit	• Trauma-Informed Care/ACEs	\$3,284
Systems Building	County Health & Human Services	• Not Applicable	\$184,603
Total			\$2,225,457

Expenditure Details

Category	Amount
Program Expenditures	\$9,614,440
Administrative Expenditures	\$600,451
Evaluation Expenditures	\$296,061
Total Expenditures	\$10,510,952
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenses	(\$1,317,746)

Other Financing Details

Category	Amount
Sale(s) of Capital Assets	\$0
Other	\$0
Total Other Financing Sources	\$0

Net Change in Fund Balance

Category	Amount
Fund Balance – Beginning	\$18,398,242
Fund Balance – Ending	\$17,080,496
Net Change in Fund Balance	(\$1,317,746)

Fiscal Year Fund Balance

Category	Amount
Nonspendable	\$54,281
Restricted	\$0
Committed	\$8,788,853
Assigned	\$0
Unassigned	\$8,237,362
Total Fund Balance	\$17,080,496

Expenditure Note

Contributions to agents increased by \$46,519 in fiscal year 2023-2024 from prior year. This is due to the increased contractor budgets in year four of a five-year funding cycle.

Annual Report AR-2
Kern Demographic Worksheet
July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024

Population Served	
Category	Number
Children Less than 3 Years Old	5,706
Children from 3rd to 6th Birthday	7,589
Children Ages Unknown (birth to 6th birthday)	0
Providers	307
Primary Caregivers	12,831
Total Population Served	26,433

Primary Languages Spoken in the Home		
Category	Number of Children	Number of Primary Caregivers
English	8,275	5,453
Spanish	3,409	3,225
Cantonese	3	5
Mandarin	2	0
Vietnamese	2	0
Korean	2	0
Other (Specify)	0	0
Unknown	1,602	4,148
Total	13,295	12,831

Race/Ethnicity of Population Served		
Category	Number of Children	Number of Primary Caregivers
Alaska Native/American Indian	49	48
Asian	147	42

Race/Ethnicity of Population Served

Category	Number of Children	Number of Primary Caregivers
Black/African-American	922	584
Hispanic/Latino	7,207	6,044
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	13	9
Two or more races	568	213
White	2,287	1,330
Unknown	2,102	4,561
Total	13,295	12,831

Duplication Assessment

Category	Data
Degree of Duplication	10%
Confidence in Data	Moderately confident
Additional Details (Optional)	<p>There are two data reporting categories - aggregate and client level. Aggregate reporting programs do not submit identifying data. Client level reporting programs enter client data into Persimmony. Duplication within and across programs is monitored using the Client Duplicates report. Forty-three duplicate clients were identified. Because aggregate reporting programs do not submit identifying data, we cannot compare the level of duplication across aggregate and client level programs.</p>

Annual Report AR-3
Kern County Evaluation Summary and Highlights
July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024

Evaluation Activities Completed, Findings, and Policy Impact

First 5 Kern prioritized three evaluation activities to deepen its understanding on the state of children ages 0 to 5 and their families. These initiatives included a comprehensive data packet, promoting developmental screenings to improve early intervention services through research and training for providers and parents, and enhancing the evaluation of its funded programs by issuing a Request for Quotations for evaluation services.

First 5 Kern contracted with Applied Survey Research (ASR) to conduct key informant interviews, a community survey and develop an overview of community data pertaining to children ages 0 to 5 and their families. ASR completed the “First 5 Kern Strategic Plan 2023 Data Packet” in August 2024. Results presented in the report include^[1]; Children on Medi-Cal were much less likely (5%) than children statewide (29%) to receive developmental screenings; and Kern County children were almost twice as likely (11.2/1000) as children statewide to experience substantiated allegations of maltreatment (6.1/1000). The data packet serves as a guide for updating future strategic plans and making informed decisions on investment priorities.

Based on data from the packet showing that children on Medi-Cal were significantly less likely than children statewide to receive developmental screenings, First 5 Kern applied for a grant from Kern Health Systems (KHS), one of the county’s Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans. The goal was to explore the reasons behind the low developmental screening rates among Medi-Cal enrolled children and to raise awareness of the importance of such screenings among parents and providers. ASR submitted the report, titled *Developmental Screening Gap Assessment 2024*, in June 2024.

The results indicated "a steady increase in the completion of developmental screenings among children on the [KHS] health plan from 2019-2023" and that "developmental screenings were more frequently completed for children ages 0-36 months than for those ages 37-60 months"^[2]. Parent survey responses suggested that "a significant portion of parents who did not complete screenings cited a lack of awareness about the availability and importance of screenings" ^[2]. In addition, provider survey results revealed that “staffing challenges, lack of linguistically diverse materials, and time constraints were significant barriers” for sites with low developmental screening rates.

Based on the findings that children on Medi-Cal have significantly lower rates of developmental screenings compared to the statewide average, First 5 Kern will begin Family-Engaged Developmental Monitoring training for providers and parents. In addition, First 5 Kern is expanding outreach and educational campaigns for parents, and addressing systemic barriers such as staffing shortages and the need for linguistically diverse materials. By implementing these policies, First 5 Kern aims to ensure that all children, particularly those from under-served populations, receive timely developmental screenings and early interventions, ultimately improving long-term outcomes for children in Kern County.

In 2024, First 5 Kern released a Request for Quotations to provide evaluation services using various methods and data collected from funded programs and initiatives to assess program performance, and the overall impact of First 5 Kern's investments. As we enter a new funding cycle in 2025, it is crucial to seek quotations from evaluators who can offer fresh insights, specialized expertise, and innovative approaches to ensure a thorough and objective assessment of our programs. This will help us make data-driven decisions and strategically direct resources to achieve the greatest impact for the communities we serve.

[¹] See pages 10, 17, and 19: <https://www.first5kern.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/F5-Kern-Strategic-Planning-Data-Packet.pdf>

[²] See page 1: <https://www.first5kern.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/F5-Kern-Developmental-Screening-Gap-Report-2.pdf>

County Highlight

In FY2023–24, First 5 Kern supported 39 programs across three key focus areas: health and wellness, parent education and support services, and early childcare and education. An estimated \$7.4 million was invested in these areas to strengthen and support children prenatal to age five and their families in Kern County. Key highlights include:

Health and Wellness:

Funded programs served 753 caregivers and 4,413 children. The dental program provided oral health screenings to 2,797 children, and 126 received restorative dental care. Immunizations were administered to 517 children, while 117 mobile clinics were held throughout the county. Additionally, the Nurse Family Partnership and Black Infant Health programs delivered home visitation services to 178 mothers and 145 children.

Parent Education and Support Services:

A total of 9,261 caregivers and family members, along with 7,378 children, were served. Case management services were provided to 1,412 parents and 1,435 children. Parent education classes/workshops had 745 participants, and 125 parents attended court-mandated education sessions.

Early Childcare and Education:

Services reached 1,504 children and 860 parents. Of these, 558 children participated in center-based activities, while 107 received home-based services. Additionally, 123 children took part in summer bridge activities aimed at supporting school readiness.

First 5 Kern County's investment of approximately \$7.4 million across health and wellness, parent education and support services, and early childcare and education has significantly impacted the lives of children and families. Through 39 programs, 13,295 children and 12,831 caregivers benefited from vital services, including dental care, immunizations, home visitations, and parent education. These efforts have helped enhance the well-being and development of children prenatal to age five, ensuring they receive the support needed for a healthy start in life.