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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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First 5 Sacramento Appoints New Executive Director

Julie Gallelo is appointed as Executive Director to manage the local First 5 Commission responsible for spending Prop. 10 revenues

Sacramento, CA – On August 11, 2015, the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors unanimously voted to appoint Julie Gallelo, First 5 Yolo Executive Director, to become Executive Director of the First 5 Sacramento Commission. Gallelo will be responsible for overseeing a \$28 million budget which funds prevention and early intervention programs for children ages 0-5 and their families.

Gallelo has over 20 years of experience developing, implementing and evaluating health and child development programs. She has served as the Executive Director of the First 5 Yolo Children and Families Commission for the past 11 years. Prior to that, Gallelo was a Health Program Coordinator at the Sacramento County Department of Health and Human Services.

“Julie Gallelo’s knowledge and strategic expertise with First 5 locally and statewide will greatly impact and advance key priorities,” said Phil Serna, Chairman of the County Board of Supervisors and Chairman of First 5 Sacramento. “The Commission looks forward to benefitting from Julie’s understanding of the strengths and challenges inherent to the work of First 5.”

As Executive Director of First 5 Sacramento, Gallelo will build upon the work of her predecessor, Toni Moore, and guide the Commission in its current and future funding decisions that provide innovative programs benefiting young children and their parents. First 5 Sacramento will also rely on Gallelo, who received Master’s degree in Public Health, to work collaboratively with Sacramento County’s diverse early childhood service providers.

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“First 5 Yolo has been very fortunate to have Julie Gallelo as its executive director. During her 11-year tenure nearly \$30 million was invested in improving the health, early learning and family functioning for thousands of children,” said Jim Provenza, Yolo County Supervisor and Chair of First 5 Yolo. “Although we will miss Julie’s visionary and collaborative leadership, we are glad she will lead a neighboring First 5 and we will have the opportunity to work with her on issues affecting children 0-5 years of age from a regional perspective.”

About First 5 Sacramento

Research shows that a child’s brain develops most dramatically in the first five years and what parents and caregivers do during these years to support their child’s growth will have a meaningful impact throughout life. Based on this research, California voters passed Proposition 10 in 1998, a tobacco tax, to fund programs for parents and children ages 0-5. Each county has a First 5 Children and Families Commission providing unique local services for each of California’s 58 counties.

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