

**FIRST 5**  
**Sacramento Commission**  
**EVALUATION COMMITTEE**  
2750 Gateway Oaks Drive, Suite 330  
Sacramento, CA 95833

**AGENDA**

**Monday**

**June 21, 2010**

**1:00 PM**

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**Members:** Robert Bonar, Marcie Launey, Scott Moak, Marilyn Ratkay

**Advisory Committee Members:** Terry Jones, Betsy Uda

**Staff:** Toni Moore, Carmen Garcia-Gomez

**Consultants:** Fred Molitor, Lisa Branton, Gary Resnick

**Clerk:** Cheryl Rookwood

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1. Approve May 17, 2010 Draft Action Summary (*5 minutes*)
2. Commission Staff Update (*5 minutes*)
3. [WRMA Monthly Progress Report](#) (*5 minutes*)
4. Review/Update: Healthy Kids/Cover The Kids Enrollment and Outreach Statistics (*15 minutes*)
5. Update: Statewide School Readiness Evaluation Efforts (*30 minutes*)
6. Committee Member Comments (*5 minutes*)
  - a. Miscellaneous
  - b. Future Agenda Items
7. Public Comments on Non-Agenda Matters (*5 minutes*)

The meeting is voice recorded in its entirety. A CD will be available for checkout from the First 5 Sacramento Commission offices at 2750 Gateway Oaks Dr., Suite 330, Sacramento, the day after the meeting.

The on-line version of the agenda and associated materials are posted for your convenience at <http://www.first5sacramento.net/default.htm>. Some documents may not have been posted on-line because of their size and/or format. As they become available, hard copies of all documents are available from the Clerk of the Commission at the First 5 Sacramento Commission offices.



**Walter R. McDonald & Associates, Inc.**

Contract #06/07-ADM-031

# **First 5 Sacramento Evaluation**

Monthly Progress Report for:  
May 2010

June 4, 2010

*Prepared for:*

First 5 Sacramento Commission

*Prepared by:*

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## **First 5 Sacramento Evaluation Contract**

### **SECTION I: INTRODUCTION, PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

The Sacramento County First 5 Commission has contracted (Contract #06/07-ADM-031) with the team of Walter R. McDonald & Associates, Inc. and Harder+Company Community Research for evaluation services during the 2007-2010 period. For this deliverables-based contract, our team submits monthly progress reports as a key communication tool for all concerned stakeholders. In the monthly progress report we identify the status of major deliverables in the contract. We also preview deliverables that are expected to be submitted in the subsequent month and identify key questions or challenges that need to be resolved.

For this work period, our primary activities related to Tasks 4, 5, and 6.

### **SECTION II: WORK PLAN**

The work under this contract is organized according to the following tasks.

- Task 1 Strategic Planning Activities
- Task 2 Evaluation Design, Scope and Report
- Task 3 Funding Processes
- Task 4 Contract Negotiations
- Task 5 Evaluation Support, Planning, Collecting and Reporting
- Task 6 Data Collection Management System, Outcomes Collection, Analysis and Reporting
- Task 7 First 5 Sacramento Commission Evaluation Annual Report
- Task 8 State Evaluation and First 5 California Annual Report

### **SECTION III: PROGRESS**

#### **Task 1 Strategic Planning Activities**

Scheduled Period of Activity: Phase 2/Year 3 & 4

Deliverables: Monthly Progress Reports

Status: Completed

#### **Task 2 Evaluation Design, Scope and Report**

Scheduled Period of Activity: Phase 1/Year 1 & Phase 2/Year 2 & 3

Deliverable 1: Draft Evaluation Design Report

Deliverable 2: Final Evaluation Design Report

Deliverable 3: Evaluation Design Report (Year II)

Deliverable 4: Evaluation Design Report (Year III)

Status: Completed

#### **Task 3 Funding Processes**

Scheduled Period of Activity: Phase 2/Year 2

Deliverables: Monthly Project Reports

Status: Completed

#### **Task 4 Contract Negotiations**

Scheduled Period of Activity: Phase 1/Year 1

Deliverable: Completed

2010/15 Funding Cycle: The Project Director and Data Manager participated in the following contract negotiation meetings in May: Health Education Council (May 5); Cover the Kids (May 10); Family Support Collaborative (May 11 & 12); Sacramento Children’s Home – Crisis Nurseries (May 19); and Smile Keepers (May 26). In addition, the Data Manager participated in conference calls to further refine the Health Education Council contract on May 10 and 13. These meetings have been especially fruitful as we have gained a valuable understanding of how the services within the various programs interrelate, and we have been able to help refine contract language in anticipation of contract milestones.

#### **Task 5 Evaluation Support, Planning, Collecting and Reporting**

Scheduled Period of Activity: Phase 1/Year 1 & Phase 2/Year 2, 3 & 4

Deliverable: Monthly Progress Reports

The abstract “Turning Tobacco Taxes Into Breastfeeding Support Services: Increases in Longer-Term Breastfeeding from First 5 Sacramento’s Enhanced-Community Lactation Assistance Project (Molitor, Resnick, Schendel, Rossi, Branton, & Field) was accepted for presentation at the 2010 American Public Health Association meeting (Denver, November 6-10).

Spring School Readiness data collection activities concluded in May. There are still some unaccounted instruments at a few sites. Without these instruments we can still state that the recruitment rates for the *Child Assessment* and *Parent Survey* exceeded last year’s efforts, and recruitment for the *Teacher Child Report* and *Teacher/Provider Survey* are just slightly lower this year compared to last. The success of the 2010 School Readiness data collection was communicated to the School Readiness Coordinator at their June 1 meeting. At this meeting we also emphasized once again the need to have all service data in Persimmony as soon as possible so that we can perform the important analyses of services in relation to outcomes.

Table 1. Recruitment Rates for *Parent Survey*, *Teacher Child Report*, and *Teacher / Provider Survey*, June 3, 2010

District	<i>Parent Survey</i>	<i>Teacher Child Report</i>	<i>Teacher/Provider Survey</i>
Elk Grove	63/68	34/35	12/12
Folsom Cordova	51/60	21/22	6/6
Robla	61/65	28/30	7/8
Sac City	68/74	34/35	12/12
San Juan	46/69	20/30	13/13
Twin Rivers	51/71	27/35	28/31
PBM	--	--	90/101
Percent Completed	83.5	87.7	91.8

## **Task 6 Data Collection Management System, Outcomes Collection, Analysis and Reporting**

Scheduled Period of Activity: Phase 1/Year 1 & Phase 2/Year 2, 3 & 4

Deliverables: Monthly and Quarterly Progress Reports

The Data Manager revised Twin Rivers contract milestones to reflect the contract amendment changes. She also met with Katie Cline on May 25 to review First 5 Sacramento staffs' comments on the revisions. Subsequently the Data Manager addressed the comments and distributed to Sara Haycox on May 26 for review.

The Data Manager worked with Persimmony to address the changes to the evaluation beginning FY 2010/11. For example, her work included designing a new field to track whether or not women are pregnant at intake; and freezing the teen assent and grandparent consent fields as these forms will not be used after July 1. In addition, she has drafted three reports in the CARES module (which will only be used by Child Action, Inc.) for the use of First 5 Sacramento staff.

Persimmony trainings in the month of May included:

- May 5 – rescheduled Health Education Council – milestone entry training (1 staff)
- May 13 - Sacramento Crisis Nursery, South – data entry training (1 staff)
- May 28 – River Delta USD – data entry training (1 staff)

## **Task 7 Annual First 5 Sacramento Evaluation Report**

Scheduled Period of Activity: Phase 2/Year 3 & 4

Deliverables 1: Annual First 5 Sacramento Evaluation Report (Year 3)

Status: Completed

Deliverables 2: Annual First 5 Sacramento Evaluation Report (Year 4)

Status: Completed

## **Task 8 State Annual Report**

Scheduled Period of Activity: Phase 2/Year 2, 3 & 4

Deliverables 1: Annual First 5 Sacramento Evaluation Report (Year 2)

Deliverables 2: Annual First 5 Sacramento Evaluation Report (Year 3)

Deliverables 3: Annual First 5 Sacramento Evaluation Report (Year 4)

Status: Completed

## **SECTION V: WORK TO BE PERFORMED IN THE NEXT REPORTING PERIOD**

### **Task 5 Evaluation Support, Planning, Collecting and Reporting**

Key Tasks:

- Continue to analyze Parent Interview data.
- June Evaluation Newsletter.
- Conduct analyses on data from Child Assessment, Parent Survey, Teacher Child Report, and Teacher/Provider Survey.
- Retrieve consent forms.

### **Task 6 Data Collection Management System, Outcomes Collection, Analysis and Reporting**

Key Tasks:

- Provide additional Persimmony training to contractor

## SECTION VI: KEY CHALLENGES OR QUESTIONS TO BE RESOLVED

- None to report.



# EVALUATION NEWSLETTER

May 2010

## *Preschool for All – KROA Symposium*

The First 5 Association hosted the Kindergarten Readiness Observational Assessments (KROA) symposium on May 20. First 5 Sacramento staff Doreen Diehl; School Readiness Coordinators Dave Pascoa, Ada Arevalo, Ginger Swigart, and Sara Haycox; and evaluation team member Summerlynn Anderson attended. The seminar emphasized the importance of including assessments of kindergarteners to obtain a broader perspective and understanding of school readiness. For this newsletter we highlight some of the core topics presented at this symposium.

*Counties learn from kindergarten assessments:* Representatives from First 5 San Mateo, First 5 Santa Barbara, First 5 San Francisco, Santa Clara County Office of Education, San Mateo County Office of Education, and Newport-Mesa Unified School District shared the benefits in implementing kindergarten assessments and how data produced were useful for program planning, directing funds, classroom placement, identifying predictive factors, and parent education. A second panel followed detailing three kindergarten assessments currently used by First 5 counties, and one assessment in progress.

*Kindergarten Observation Form (KOA):* Lynne Mobilio from Applied Survey Research (ASR) discussed the KOA and the ASR school readiness assessment model which includes a parent and teacher survey along with the child assessment. The KOA was developed by ASR and includes a child demographic section followed by 24 teacher-rated items broken into four subscales: Self care & motor skills, Self regulation, Social expression, and Kindergarten academics. Each skill is rated as *proficient*, in

*progress*, *beginning*, or *not yet*. The inter-rater reliability is currently being tested.

*Early Developmental Index (EDI):* Neal Halfon, from UCLA Center for Healthier Children, Families and Communities, provided information about the five domains of the EDI: Physical health and wellbeing, Social competence, Emotional maturity, Language and cognitive skills, and Communication skills and general knowledge. This 104 item instrument was developed as a population-based measure by the Offord Centre for Child Studies at McMaster University in Canada. Teachers enter data using a web-based tool, and results can be used to produce community based outcomes such as tracking “vulnerable” children in each domain at the district and neighborhood level.

*Kindergarten Student Entrance Profile (KSEP):* Matt Quirk from UC Santa Barbara presented the KSEP developed by Santa Maria-Bonita School District, First 5 Santa Barbara County, and the Gevirtz Graduate School of Education at UCSB. Teacher’s rate children’s physical & health readiness, social-emotional readiness, and school ready knowledge. The KSEP includes two direct assessment supplements for follow-up and intervention for children with low ratings.

*Desired Results Developmental Profile – School Readiness (DRDP-SR):* The UC Berkeley BEAR Center and WestED Center for Child and Family Studies are developing an optional statewide kindergarten assessment to complement the current DRDP preschool assessments with the goal of attaining information about individual children’s development over time. They are recruiting kindergarten teachers to test the instrument this year and plan to have the final assessment ready to implement in August 2011.

### THE EVALUATION TEAM:

*The evaluators of First 5 Sacramento represent a team from Walter R. McDonald & Associates, Inc. (Sacramento) and Harder+Company Community Research (Davis). The evaluation team is dedicated to assessing the impact of First 5 Sacramento services on families throughout Sacramento, while minimizing the amount of time that contractors have to spend on evaluation activities. Please call us if you have any questions about the evaluation of First 5 Sacramento services: WRMA 916.239.4020; H+Co 530.757.8420.*

Cycle 2 School Readiness Deliverables  
“Administer Teacher/Provider Survey”  
“Administer Teacher’s Child Report”  
“Administer Administrator Survey”  
Walter R. McDonald & Associates, Inc.  
June 3, 2010

The Cycle 2 School Readiness evaluation in spring includes the *Teacher Child Report (TCR)* and *Teacher/Provider Survey*. Survey instruments were distributed to School Readiness Coordinators on April 21 and data collection concluded on May 28. During this time School Readiness Coordinators were responsible for locating and distributing questionnaires to the teachers of the children whose families participated in the fall 2009 *Parent Survey* (i.e., for families who did not participate in fall, we did not attempt to locate or contact the child or child’s teacher in spring).

The *Teacher/Provider Surveys* were to be completed by all participating children’s (ages 0 to 5 years) teachers, child care providers, playgroup instructors, or in some cases kindergarten teachers. Questionnaires recorded teachers’ beliefs, practices, education and curriculum.

The *TCR* was only to be completed by teachers of children ages 4 and 5 years who were selected to participate in the *Child Assessment*. The *TCR* is the social-emotional accompaniment to the cognitive *Child Assessment* measure and requires teachers to observe and rate children’s behavior, including attention/persistence, aggression, withdrawn and hyperactive behaviors. In appreciation of their assistance in multiple evaluation activities, teachers (excluding Preschool Bridging Model) who completed the *Teacher/Provider Survey* were presented a \$10 Starbucks gift card.

New to this year, teachers participating in the Sacramento County Office of Education Preschool Bridging Model (PBM) participated in a pre/post *Teacher/Provider Survey*. PBM teachers and providers completed the questionnaire in fall 2009 on entry to the program, and again in spring 2010. PBM achieved a recruitment rate of 89.1% (Table 1).

Throughout the data collection period, evaluation staff met weekly with School Readiness Coordinators to review completed surveys, and address their questions and concerns. School Readiness Coordinators were provided lists of parents’, children’s, and teachers’ names and Persimmony ID number in an Excel database and as a hardcopy to aid in locating the families and teachers and track their participation. The overall recruitment rate for the *Teacher/Provider Survey* was 91.8%, and 87.7% for the *TCR* (Table 1).

Table 1. Preliminary Recruitment Rate of *Teacher Child Report*, and *Teacher/Provider Survey*, June 3, 2010

District	TCR		Teacher/Provider Survey	
	Number Completed	Percent Completed	Number Completed	Percent Completed
Elk Grove	34/35	97.1	12/12	100
Folsom/Cordova*	21/22	95.5	6/6	100
Robla	28/30	93.3	7/8	87.5
Sac City	34/35	97.1	12/12	100
San Juan	20/30	66.7	13/13	100
Twin Rivers	27/35	77.1	28/31	90.3
PBM	--	--	90/101	89.1
Total	164/187	87.7	168/183	91.8

\*One child ineligible due to age at time of assessment, thus removed from original sample of 23 children

Cycle 2 School Readiness Deliverable  
“Distribute and Monitor Child Assessment Instrument”  
Walter R. McDonald & Associates, Inc.  
June 3, 2010

The Cycle 2 School Readiness evaluation utilizes the direct *Child Assessment* instrument to measure children’s receptive vocabulary, numeracy, and letter recognition. Assessor training and follow-up were detailed in our March 31, 2010 deliverable, “Train Contract Staff in *Child Assessment* Instrument.”

The number of children ages 4 and 5 years selected to be assessed varied across districts due to the assorted child ages from randomly sampled families who participated in the fall 2009 *Parent Survey*. In districts with greater than 35 children ages 4 to 5 years, random samples of 35 children were conducted. For districts with fewer than 35 children, all children ages 4 and 5 years were included. Following are the number of children from each school district identified for the 2010 *Child Assessment*: Elk Grove, 35; Folsom Cordova, 22; Robla, 30; Sacramento City, 35; San Juan, 30; Twin Rivers, 35.

*Child Assessment* administration began on March 22 and continued through May 5, with the exception of spring break when no assessments were conducted for one week (two for Robla). Preschool Bridging Model staff assisted in administering some of the assessments for Folsom Cordova, San Juan, and Twin Rivers. Each week an evaluation team member scheduled and met with the School Readiness Coordinators to answer questions and monitor progress in locating children and completing assessments. Incomplete assessments, such as those conducted in Spanish but missing the English PreLas screener, were returned to School Readiness Coordinators to complete with the child.

School Readiness Coordinators and staff successfully located and assessed 163 children in English, a total recruitment rate of 87.2% (Table 1); 67 of these children were also assessed in Spanish. Despite a greater number of children to be assessed this year compared to last, School Readiness Coordinators achieved a higher recruitment rate, 87.2% compared to 84.3% in 2009.

Table 1. *Child Assessment* Completion Rate, Spring 2010

District	Number Completed	Percent Completed	Unable to Locate	Moved Out of District	Refused
Elk Grove	33/35	94.3		2	
Folsom Cordova*	21/22	95.5		1	
Robla	29/30	96.7		1	
Sac City	34/35	97.1	1		
San Juan	21/30	70.0	6	2	1
Twin Rivers	25/35	71.4		9	
<b>Total</b>	<b>163/187</b>	<b>87.2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>1</b>

\*One child ineligible due to age at time of assessment, thus removed from original sample of 23 children

Cycle 2 School Readiness Deliverable  
 “Coding, Data Entry and Analysis of Fall-Spring Parent and Child Data”  
 Walter R. McDonald & Associates, Inc.  
 June 3, 2010

The Cycle 2 School Readiness *Parent Survey* is administered twice a school year to measure changes in parenting practices, social support, and stress. Surveys were available in English and Spanish. School Readiness Coordinators and staff met parents at the child’s school or playgroup, or in some cases at the families’ home, to deliver and collect the questionnaires. If parents preferred, interviews were conducted over the telephone by school staff. School Readiness Coordinators also met weekly with an evaluation team member who reviewed each questionnaire. Questionnaires that were filled out by a person other than the parent who participated in the fall or that were missing three or more items were returned to the School Readiness Coordinator. Out of the 407 parents who completed the *Parent Survey* in fall 2009, 340 participated in the follow-up survey in spring 2010, for a recruitment rate of 83.5% (Table 1). This exceptional rate is greater than the final outcome of the spring 2009 *Parent Survey* and includes a larger sample than the previous year, with 340 parents completing both fall and spring surveys in 2010 compared to the previous year of 239 parents.

Table 1. Preliminary Outcome of School Readiness *Parent Survey*, June 3, 2010

District	Number Completed	Incomplete	Moved Out of District	Unable to Locate	Refused	Percent Completed
Elk Grove	63	1	1	3	0	92.6
Folsom Cordova	51	4	2	2	1	85.0
Robla	61	0	4	0	0	93.8
Sac City	68	4	2	0	0	91.9
San Juan	46	4	3	15	1	66.7
Twin Rivers	51	6	12	1	1	71.8
Total	340	19	24	21	3	83.5

“Incomplete” questionnaires represent the sampled, eligible parents who were contacted, but did not fill out a questionnaire. This includes situations where a parent agreed to meet with school staff to participate in the survey and did not show up, as well as circumstances where a family member other than the one selected completed the survey, and unreturned questionnaires. Families who were confirmed as having moved out of the district, and in some cases out of the country, were coded as “moved.” After multiple attempts to contact parents, those with disconnected numbers and no confirmation that the family moved outside the district, were considered “unable to locate.” Parents who verbally declined to participate were noted as “refused.”

Data collection ended May 28 and fall 2010 *Parent Survey* data is currently being entered. Initial analysis will include changes over time from fall 2009 to spring 2010, followed by cohort comparisons between fiscal year 2008/09 and fiscal year 2009/10. Finally, analysis at the school district level will be conducted.