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Contact: Kimberly VandenBosch
Communications Officer
909.252.4283 (office)

kimberly.vandenbosch@cfc.sbcounty.gov

First 5 San Bernardino Elects New Commission Chair, Vice-Chair; Adds Two Ex Officio members

First 5 San Bernardino announces changes in Commission Members

SAN BERNARDINO – October 14, 2021 – During the September meeting of San Bernardino County’s Children and Families Commission, an election was held to fill the roles of chair and vice-chair for the First 5 San Bernardino Commission. Two new ex officio commissioners were also sworn in.

Elliot Weinstein, M.D., who recently served as Commission vice-chair, was elected to chair the Commission, and Margaret Hill, D.Ed., was elected to the vice-chair position. Dr. Weinstein, a practicing pediatrician in Rancho Cucamonga, and Dr. Hill, a renowned educator and an at-large member of the San Bernardino City Unified School District Board of Education, have extensive experience with First 5 having served on the Commission for nine and eight years respectively. They were elected by the voting members of the Commission.

Further, San Bernardino County’s Assistant Executive Officer for Human Services Diana Alexander and Public Health Director Joshua Dugas were sworn in during the meeting held via Zoom on September 1, 2021. Both positions are required to serve on First 5’s Commission as dictated in the Commission’s bylaws

The mid-year change in leadership came as a result of San Bernardino County’s reorganization that occurred over the summer. CaSonya Thomas, former Commission chair, assumed a new role in San Bernardino County’s leadership team, necessitating her departure from First 5 San Bernardino’s Commission after a four-year tenure. Further, Dugas replaced the seat held by Andrew Goldfrach who had been serving as the interim public health director since March and a member of the Commission since June 2021.

“I want to thank CaSonya for her many contributions to First 5 San Bernardino’s Commission and the dedication she has shown to the organization,” said Karen Scott, executive director of First 5 San Bernardino. “Simultaneously, we also thank Andrew for his participation, congratulate Drs. Weinstein and Hill on their new leadership roles, and welcome Diana and Joshua to First 5 San Bernardino,” Scott concluded.

First 5 San Bernardino’s Commission meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 3:30 p.m. The next meeting, however, will be held October 27, 2021, at 3:30 pm via Zoom to coincide with the fiscal audit reporting cycle. Visit First5SanBernardino.org for details.

About First 5 San Bernardino

First 5 San Bernardino is committed to promoting the health and well-being of young children and their families by investing in programs and services that empower families and individuals to reach their full potential. For more information, visit First5SanBernardino.org.