Acknowledgements

EVALCORP would like to thank and acknowledge First 5 San Bernardino’s partner agencies who contributed their data to this report. We would also like to thank both the former Systems and Impact Team members, William Kariuki, Alejandro Guitierrez-Chavez, and Tania Offerall, who oversaw First 5 San Bernardino’s 2020-2021 data reporting systems, and the current Systems and Impact Team members Scott McGrath, Dr. Wendy Lee, Peter Tawadros, and Ray Salamat who supported the development of this report.
Letter From the Executive Director

Dear Colleagues and Community Partners,

I’m pleased to provide our fiscal year report which covers the period of July 2020 - June 2021. Just looking at those dates brings vivid memories of our world during the heart of the pandemic. While that year challenged us all in ways never thought possible, it also inspired us at First 5 San Bernardino to continue innovating and revolutionizing funded systems and delivery models while advocating for children and their families.

SUPPORTING CHILDREN

Through our investments in initiatives such as Family and Community Support Partnership, Help Me Grow Inland Empire, Quality Start San Bernardino, the Maternal Health Network, and others, we continue to support children from prenatal through 5 years of age and their families with broad-based support. Through parent education, health care, social service, and quality childcare, thousands of children and their parents, caregivers, and childcare providers have been served in fiscal year 2020-2021.

IMPROVING CHILD WELL-BEING

Our Commission continues its commitment to build and support a comprehensive system of care for children ages 0 – 5, with a vision that community organizations, collective impact groups, and the workforce will be equipped to effectively collaborate and serve our children and families to improve the well-being of the whole child.

COMMUNITY LEADER

We know the early childhood years are the foundation for lifelong well-being, and First 5 San Bernardino looks forward to meeting goals that promote, support, and enhance the health and early development of our children, as well as their families and communities. Fiscal year 2021-2022 should yield some exceptional outcomes as well, as we continue to bounce back from COVID-19, build strong and diverse relationships, lead collaborations and coalitions, and drive positive collective impact.
RESPONSIVE IN A CHANGING ENVIRONMENT

Moving forward, our priorities are focused on keeping current with the rapidly changing policy and fiscal landscape that aligns with funding opportunities. This will allow for the linking of funding and expanding the reach and success of coordinated interventions, services, and resources that support the whole child and whole community. We also are identifying opportunities to share data and maximize the use of innovation and effective technology.

Lastly, we are committed to begin the process of building First 5 San Bernardino’s brand – an important component in developing credibility with stakeholders. Brand recognition and organizational awareness are intertwined and, over time, will position First 5 San Bernardino externally as a known market leader in child advocacy. I’m proud to lead a team that facilitates remarkable systems integration designed to nurture children in their early years. We are ready to proactively let our community get to know our significant commitment to the littlest children in San Bernardino County in a whole new way.

On behalf of the Commission, I would once again like to thank and acknowledge our contracted agencies and collaborative partners for the outstanding work that has been done in the face of COVID-19 challenges. The outcomes that have been achieved are exemplary and a true testament of their commitment to our county’s youngest children and their families.

Sincerely,

Karen E. Scott
Executive Director
The following report presents an overview of accomplishments and successes achieved through First 5 San Bernardino’s (F5SB) funded initiatives in fiscal year 2020-2021 in each of the three Strategic Priority Areas of the 2020-2023 Strategic Plan:

**Overview**

In 2020-2021, First 5 San Bernardino served 72,916 individuals.  
23,643 Children  
49,273 Primary Caregivers

**CHILD HEALTH:**

Children prenatal through age five and their families can access the full spectrum of health and behavioral health services needed to enhance their well-being.

**FAMILY SUPPORTS:**

Families and communities are engaged, supported, and strengthened through effective resources and opportunities that assist them in nurturing, caring, and providing for their children’s success and well-being.

**QUALITY EARLY LEARNING:**

Children birth through age five benefit from high quality early childhood care and education, family engagement, and support that prepares all children to reach their optimal potential in school and life.
Within each of the Strategic Priority Areas, F5SB maintained a commitment to systems-level efforts: Collaboration, Community Capacity Building, and Workforce.

- **Collaboration**: ensuring that families, providers, and stakeholders collaborate effectively to improve the well-being of the child.
- **Community Capacity Building**: ensuring that community organizations and groups are equipped to effectively serve children and families.
- **Workforce**: ensuring that the workforce is developed to effectively serve children and families.

**Current Report**

This report is organized by Strategic Priority areas. The list of corresponding initiatives includes a narrative summary and the corresponding data for fiscal year 2020-2021. System-wide strategies are also identified for each initiative:

- **Prevention Efforts**: a focus on prevention strategies through outreach campaigns, provider trainings, and caregiver educations.
- **Family Supportive Resources**: provision of supports for families, including services, supplies, or other assistance.
- **Collaboration for Systemwide Efforts**: initiatives that include collaboratives with other service or system partners.
Changing Landscape: Impacts of COVID-19 and Opportunities

During the 2020-2021 fiscal year, the impacts of COVID-19 on families, communities, and service providers were significant. To understand and document the impacts, EVALCORP surveyed F5SB’s funded agencies (n=25) on the effects of COVID-19 on their work in Fall 2020. Stay-at-home orders and social distancing practices required many services to close or significantly reduce their in-person services. Program enrollment was also affected; families were reluctant to commit to participation in programs, and previously utilized in-person recruitment approaches were no longer possible. Many agencies shifted to virtual service provision systems, which presented technological challenges to both agency staff and families. However, virtual service provision did present some opportunities by removing transportation-related barriers and allowing for more flexible scheduling.

In many cases, the numbers served for 2020-2021 were lower than previous years. Throughout the report, initiatives that had significant impacts due to COVID-19 are identified.
Child Health

Children prenatal through age 5 and their families can access the full spectrum of health and behavioral health services needed to enhance their well-being.

14,897 Children Served Overall 466 Parents Served Overall

ACEs Aware

With funding from F5SB and a grant from the California Surgeon General, ACEs Aware supports a collaboration with health, human services, education, and non-profit sectors to encourage providers to train and empower parents in awareness of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) to promote resiliency in children.

3,167,025 Total Campaign Views
7,100 ACEs Resource Cards Distributed
61 Providers ACEs Aware Certified

Breathmobile*

Delivers free pediatric asthma care to families via mobile clinics that travel to schools in the Inland Valley and High Desert areas to provide complete evaluation, examination, care plan, and extensive patient family education.

38 Children Served
24 Parents Served

Children's Assessment Center

Provides forensic interviews and medical exams in one child-friendly location for children who have suffered physical and/or sexual abuse to reduce unnecessary trauma for victimized children during the investigation of child abuse case.

624 Children Served
1,271 Trainings Held

*Initiative numbers were significantly impacted during COVID-19 stay-at-home orders
Children’s Network Media/Outreach Campaign

Prevents child abuse and neglect by raising awareness of resources for at-risk families through community events, trainings, health fairs, and media campaigns; Builds capacity in service providers to deliver trauma informed and culturally sensitive services.

Children’s Network Early Childhood Mental Health Systems Coordinator

Strengthens early childhood mental health system of care for high risk 0-5 population by facilitating meetings and trainings for early childhood mental health service providers, strengthening relationships with community partners, and streamlining and identifying gaps in services.

Children Fund’s Daily Referral

Works with case managers and social workers to support at-risk children by providing for vital needs such as shelter, transportation, food, education, and medical services.

Children's Network Media/Outreach Campaign

27,755,899 Views of Media Campaign
6 Regional Collaborative Meetings
15 Training Workshops
Nearly 800 Providers Served at Annual Children's Network Conference

Nearly 80 Collaborative Meetings

442 Parents Assisted with Basic Needs
8,998 Children Served Through Celebration of Giving
Maternal Health Network

Builds a collaborative network of maternal health providers to ensure equity in service delivery, increase quality of care for families with high-risk pregnancies, strengthen the workforce to meet community needs, improve data collection to guide quality improvement and decision making, and improve coordination of care and collaboration across sector providers and county coalitions.

Inland Empire Father Involvement Coalition

Uses resources, education, services, and expertise from a coalition of county departments and community and faith-based organizations to reduce absenteeism and support engagement from fathers.

Inland Empire Help Me Grow

Supports early identification of developmental delays and connects families to existing community resources; Collects data and conducts evaluation to identify any gaps in the early identification and intervention service system.

Maternal Health Network

Builds a collaborative network of maternal health providers to ensure equity in service delivery, increase quality of care for families with high-risk pregnancies, strengthen the workforce to meet community needs, improve data collection to guide quality improvement and decision making, and improve coordination of care and collaboration across sector providers and county coalitions.

Inland Empire Father Involvement Coalition

More than 100 Providers From
60 Organizations Served
3 Leadership Team Meetings
4 Network Member Webinars
2 Summits for Network Providers
Over 2,000 Pregnancy Resources on Website Directory

7,427,740 Views of Fatherhood Campaign
250 Participants Served at Virtual Inland Empire Fatherhood Summit

1,658 Children Served

Inland Empire Help Me Grow

Inland Empire Help Me Grow

Inland Empire Help Me Grow

1,658 Children Served
Promoting Breastfeeding Through Professional Mentorship

Supports hospitals in obtaining their Baby-Friendly designation by ensuring that hospitals have a plan to provide breastfeeding support to mothers and babies; Brings together local maternal health and support groups, including WIC, Black Infant Health, and Maternal Health Network, to support partnerships across the groups and trainings.

Screening, Assessment, Referral, and Treatment/Early Identification and Intervention Services

In partnership with the County of San Bernardino Department of Behavioral Health, SART/EIIS supports the socio-emotional and developmental health of young children by conducting developmental screenings, providing early intervention services, and improving the system of services through regular collaborative meetings with early intervention service providers. Children are assessed using Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) at pre- and post-testing.

20 Webinars
11 General Continuing Education Sessions
11 Specialty Advocacy Trainings
3 Hospital Collaborative Meetings

3,579 Children Served
- SART: 2,011
- EIIS: 1,568

SART Improvements on CANS
- 71% improvement in curiosity
- 78% improvement in attachment
- 79% improvement in emotional/physical regulation

EIIS Improvements on CANS
- 71% improvement in attachment
- 67% improvement in emotional/physical regulation
- 70% improvement in anxiety
- 69% improvement in anger control
Faced with these financial stresses, exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, they turned to Inland Housing Solutions who reached out to Children’s Fund. We gladly supported the family with new bunk beds, a twin bed, bedding for each of the children, and gift cards to help them afford new clothing for the children. We are so happy knowing that the children are now able to sleep soundly in their new beds, night after night, and are ready for what the future holds. - Children Fund’s Daily Referral

“
**Family Supports**

Families and communities are engaged, supported, and strengthened through resources and opportunities that assist them in nurturing, caring, and providing for their children’s success and well-being.

**255 Children Served Overall**

**48,717 Parents Served Overall**

**Family and Community Support and Partnerships***

Strengthens families and reduces child abuse through a prevention-focused coalition of organizations that provide evidence-based Nurturing Parenting Programs to improve parenting and family functioning; Assesses families for risk of child abuse at program entry and exit (Adult Adolescent Parenting Inventory, AAPI-2).

**771 Parents Served**

**0 Parents Scored at High Risk for Abuse at Program Completion**

**Of Clients Who Entered FCSP as High Risk**

- 67.5% exited at Low Risk
- 32.5% exited at Medium Risk

**Home Visitation System Coordination**

Creates an integrated and effective Home Visiting system in San Bernardino County to increase awareness of Home Visiting at the community and provider level and assess available resources for families.

**6 Provider Meetings**

Average of 20 Attendees from 8 Partner Organizations Per Meeting

**Parent and Child Connection**

Supports positive parent-child relations and literacy for families with parents who are incarcerated by delivering books and story recordings to their children.

**442 Incarcerated Parents Served**

*Initiative numbers were significantly impacted during COVID-19 stay-at-home orders*
Connects families in Inland Empire to a comprehensive list of services including housing, financial supports, education, and health through an online database and a call line that is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

I believe trainings like these are necessary because it teaches new parents on how to become effective parents. Then, on the other hand it also teaches parents that have been parents for years that there are other methods and strategies to care for their children. It also teaches them to take care of themselves. It is necessary because not everyone is aware, on why not to be abusive to their children verbally, physically and emotionally. It teaches you that we all have different upbringings, and if we want and choose to change the cycle of abusiveness we can, and it is possible. - Family and Community Support and Partnerships
Children birth through age 5 benefit from high quality early childhood care and education, family engagement, and support that prepares all children to reach their optimal potential in school and life.

8,914 Children Served Overall

Early Head Start-Child Care Partnerships
Provides coaching for providers to increase the number of high quality early care and education providers in San Bernardino County.

Footsteps2Brilliance
Provides a free bilingual application that fosters school readiness skills in children through a partnership between F5SB and San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools.

First 5 Service Corps*
In collaboration with California Child Abuse Prevention Center (CCAP) and County of San Bernardino Preschool Services Division, AmeriCorps volunteers introduce early literacy, numeracy, and social-emotional development to children ages 3-5 in Early Head Start and Head Start programs to support school readiness.

*Initiative numbers were significantly impacted during COVID-19 stay-at-home orders
Quality Start San Bernardino*

With joint funding from First 5 CA IMPACT and Infant Toddler funding, California State Preschool Block Grant (overseen by California Department of Education and San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools), and F5SB, Quality Start San Bernardino helps childcare programs, preschools, and alternative school-readiness programs provide the highest quality early learning experiences to children through a Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) that integrates and aligns quality improvement services and investments into one coherent system.

2,142 Coaching Visits Made
305 Contract Sites Served
234 Face Coverings Distributed to Support Sites’ Return to In-Person Instruction

*Initiative numbers were significantly impacted during COVID-19 stay-at-home orders

Reach Out and Read Inland Empire

Provides books to pediatric providers to be distributed to families to encourage reading aloud to their children.

78,771 Books Distributed
There are many things that a home should have in order to provide a better life for the children inside, but one of the most important is a sense of safety. Sadly, for the [one] family, this was difficult to find within their home. A victim of domestic violence, she was forced to flee her home with her four children in order to keep them safe. They found themselves in the city of Victorville with very little clothing and without a permanent residence. The family settled into a hotel in the meantime while she secured herself a job in the city. The money she earned, along with the stimulus checks that she saved, was enough to get the family into a mobile home.

Throughout these difficult times, she has regularly attended her Case Management meetings, began divorce proceedings, has plans to begin counseling for her and her children, expressed interest in starting parenting classes for her upper-aged children, began taking her own health more seriously by visiting a doctor for the first time in many years, and has held down her new job in Victorville. While she is truly a hardworking and inspiring woman, she did need a little help for her children. She reached out to Desert Sanctuary and, in turn, Children’s Fund to assist her with the purchase of new beds, bedding, and clothing for her children in their new home. Children’s Fund was pleased to meet this request and do our part in helping such a determined woman and devoted mother provide for her four children. We hope this assistance will allow the family to thrive in their new city.

- Children Fund’s Daily Referral
He is a dedicated father, married with a young daughter. He has struggled to make friends that are dependable since arriving in the USA. A language barrier remains part of the home; his wife does not speak Spanish and his English is equally limited. He joined our first ever Proyecto de Padres Nurturing Father’s Program class as a result of his wife having been part of our daytime parenting classes, and he was eager to learn more about being a great father.

At our first ever graduation of all Spanish speaking dads, he could barely speak as his emotions got the best of him. As he stood with Father Engagement Coordinator, he tried to communicate his depth of gratitude for the new friends met in class, and the new parenting skills he learned throughout the program. He also described how he and his wife had discovered a common language in parenting as a platform for announcing their excitement of a second child "on the way." This is a great victory for the partnership between the Mom & Dad Project and First 5.

- Family and Community Support and Partnerships
We would like to acknowledge the 2020-2021 Board of Commissioners, including CaSonya Thomas-Chair, Elliot Weinstein, M.D.-Vice-Chair, Margaret Hill, Jorge Escalante, Gary C. Ovitt, Corwin Porter, and Josie Gonzales.

**COMMISSIONERS 2021-2022**

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