



## Minutes: Advisory Committee Meeting

735 E. Carnegie Drive, Suite 150, San Bernardino, California 92408

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**Meeting Date, Time and Location**      October 22, 2015  
 Vice Chair Stacy Iverson called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.  
 First 5 San Bernardino

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**Attendees**

**Advisory Committee**  
 Stacy Iverson, Ed Pare, Diana Alexander, Kathy Turnbull, Sonia Rubio, Becky Thams, Nancy Ruth White, Ken Johnston, James Moses, Jonathan Byers, Kent Paxton, Margaret Hill

**First 5 San Bernardino**  
 Karen Scott, Cindy Faulkner, Mary Jaquish, Debora Dickerson-Sims, Ann Calkins, Mary Alvarez, RuthAnn Martinez, Ronnie Thomas, Chrystina Smith-Rasshan

**Harder+Co**  
 Matt Kronz

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**Consent**      A motion was made by Kent Paxton and seconded by Jonathan Byers to approve the minutes. Without further comment or objection, motion carried by unanimous vote to approve the minutes.

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Item No.	CONSENT
1	Approve Minutes of August 20, 2015 Advisory Committee Meeting

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Item No.	DISCUSSION
2	<p>Systems Approach Update            (Karen E. Scott, Executive Director)</p> <p>Karen stated that interviews were held with selected stakeholders throughout the County to help us work on a definition for “systems”. The interviews have been completed and Karen will meet with Dr. Joelle Greene from Harder+Co to review the findings and to plan a survey. This survey will go to the Children’s Policy Council which represents all of our child-serving organizations to obtain their input and ideas on systems development; what a systems partnership and approach should look like and what it would achieve for our various organizations.</p>

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Karen mentioned that staff is working on an internal definition of “systems” as an organized, purposeful structure that consists of interrelated and interdependent elements (components, entities, factors, members, parts etc.). These elements continually influence one another (directly or indirectly) to maintain their activity and the existence of the system, in order to achieve the goal of the system. The design of First 5 San Bernardino’s (F5SB) “systems approach” will focus on the extent to which the system may be expected to achieve not only our own organizational objectives, but improve and meet the needs identified as “shared” within our County environment for collective impact.

Some systems share common characteristics including:

- Structure - contains parts or components that are directly or indirectly related to each other;
- Behavior - exhibits processes that fulfill its function or purpose;
- Interconnectivity - the parts and processes are connected by structural and/or behavioral relationships

F5SB’s focus is more on shifting the allocation of resources and, therefore, funding decisions, to ensure maximum efficiency and effectiveness in meeting the needs of young children – an approach that may look very different from just funding conventional service-delivery programs where the impact is limited to the people who receive those services. When funds are devoted also to systems change, their impact can extend beyond a single program – to multiple programs, agencies, and service recipients, or to the entire community – and far into the future. For this reason, F5SB as funder is exploring, with the hope to lead and facilitate a “systems-change” approach in our County.

By no means are we developing just one system – there will probably be at least three systems that align with F5SB’s Strategic Plan for child’s health, early learning and community and family support. We have our QRIS system which requires many partners and a common shared vision for collective impact. Help Me Grow (HMG) is a system that can bring in QRIS and early learning. Each of these systems are all going to touch one another.

Karen came across the following questions on First 5 Los Angeles’s website which also apply to F5SB:

1. Is First 5 moving away from funding direct services?
2. What is systems change?
3. Why is it important to examine and refocus First 5 strategic direction?

First 5 is not moving away from funding direct services, rather it is refocusing the way it funds these services. To that end, First 5 will place greater emphasis on policy and systems-level change as they have the ability to create lasting change for the greatest number of children.

Systems change is working with organizations, communities, and public agencies in new ways to change how services and supports are organized and delivered.

As it relates to F5SB, Karen stated it is important to examine First 5 strategic direction because being able to show population-level impact worthy of 15 years of investment has not been easy or overwhelmingly received.

In order to be able to respond to the results and outcomes that we’re looking for and opportunities for bridging and strengthening relationships, there will need to be some flexibility as well.

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3	<p>Recap Sub-Committee Process for August through October 2015 (Matt Kronz, Harder+Co)</p> <p>Matt gave an overview of what the members have done and their current work. As a recap, members looked back at the work done in 2011 relating to prioritization of strategies, duplication of need by other agencies, availability of data, etc. Sub-committee members viewed a presentation which listed additional considerations for systems improvement (Can we leverage additional resources? Is there infrastructure in place to support collaboration? Can we collect shared data necessary for evaluation on a County-wide level? Do we have willing partners and/or the ability to build on existing collaborations?).</p> <p>Sub-committee activities were broken down into three areas – early learning; health and Help Me Grow (combined), and child wellness. Members met to give their feedback and discuss funding considerations that are currently underway. Much of the conversations related to what might be impactful on a systems level and beyond a service delivery approach.</p>
4 and 5	<p>Subcommittee Considerations/Advisory Members Feedback (Ronnie Thomas, Staff Analyst II; Chrystina Smith-Rasshan, Staff Analyst II)</p> <p>A document was distributed to members for their review which entailed notes and feedback gathered from the various sub-committee meetings. Ronnie and Chrystina reviewed this document with the group and members shared their feedback.</p> <p>(See attached “Child Wellness” and “ECE” Advisory Subcommittee documents)</p>

**Public Comment**

None

**Committee Member Roundtable**

James Moses announced that a Public Policy Breakfast taking place at Cal State San Bernardino and co-chaired by CCRC and First 5 will take place on Friday, January 8, 2016. Diana Alexander mentioned she will be attending National HeadStart training in Portland, Oregon on January 8.

Margaret Hill commended Stacy Iverson for doing a great job as Vice Chair for the Advisory Committee.

**Adjournment**

A motion was made by Ed Pare and seconded by Diana Alexander to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

**Next Meeting**

January 21, 2016

**Attest**

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Ann M. Calkins, Advisory Committee Secretary