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**P R E S S   R E L E A S E**

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**6 Child-Focused Projects Secure Sponsorship from First 5 Shasta**

Young children are the focus of 6 more projects that have just secured funding from First 5 Shasta. Sponsorship Grants were offered for community-driven activities that might benefit pregnant women, children ages 0-to-5, their families, and providers working on behalf of young children in Shasta County. After careful consideration of fifteen grant applications, awards were made to the following grant recipients:

- **Family Child Care Association of Shasta and Tehama Counties** **\$ 1,400**  
*for Annual Membership Sponsorship*  
 Membership scholarships covering annual dues for Shasta County child care providers. Participation in the Family Child Care Association offers providers access to trainings, involvement in Association government, and networking with other providers.
- **Far Northern Regional Center** **\$ 3,000**  
*for Hawaii Early Learning Profile (HELP)*  
 Training for Far Northern staff on the use of the HELP assessment tool that identifies and helps remediate developmental delays in children birth to age 3. Also used to screen children and create individualized curriculum for early intervention services.
- **Redding School District** **\$ 10,300**  
*for READY! for Kindergarten*  
 Classes for parents at Bonny View, Cypress, and Juniper Preschools to help them learn about age-appropriate, measurable skills their children will need to be prepared for kindergarten. READY! for Kindergarten is a program developed by the Children’s Reading Foundation and Washington’s Kennewick School District.
- **Shasta County Child Abuse Prevention Coordinating Council** **\$ 7,000**  
*for Child Abuse Prevention Training*  
 Trainings for home visiting staff (Triple P - Positive Parenting Program), parents (Leaders for Change: Protective Factors in Action), and CAPCC staff attendance at the 2014-15 Child Abuse Prevention Conference offering cutting edge strategies for reducing child abuse.
- **Women’s Health Specialists** **\$ 3,900**  
*for Prenatal Health Referral Project*  
 Staff will work with Managed Medi-Cal provider “Partnership HealthPlan of CA” to insure pregnant women are referred to the new *Growing Together Perinatal Program* for phone info/support, case management, resource referrals, free breast pumps for breastfeeding members returning to work/school.

When it comes to making a difference for Shasta County and its families, First 5 Shasta remains at the forefront of investors putting their money and energy where it can do the most good – early childhood. Funding these new projects helps meet First 5 Shasta’s [Pathway Goals](#) and diversify the range of services and knowledge that will benefit young children and our community for many years to come.

**Shasta Children and Families Commission**

First 5 Shasta was established after California voters approved Proposition 10 in 1998, adding a 50-cent tax on tobacco to fund programs and activities that support early childhood development and school readiness. To date, First 5 Shasta has invested over \$20 million in local programs, services, and activities that benefit children ages 0-to-5. Learn more: [www.first5shasta.org](http://www.first5shasta.org).

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