

Location of Meeting: 393 Park Marina Circle, Redding, CA 96001

Topic: First 5 Shasta Evaluation and Advisory Committee Meeting

Time: January 16, 2025, 9:00 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86803555133?pwd=8liLvrpnwtYMYKHSaW6wpm4so9YqtK.1>

1. **Call to Order:** 9:00 am

Welcome and Introductions by Doug Woodworth, Data and Evaluation Coordinator.

Committee

Kathy Barry
Gordon Chatham
Amy Pendergast
Daniel Walker
AJ Anderson
Beverly Charsha

Staff

Wendy Dickens
Liz Poole
Megan Johnson
Jackie Scott
Nicole Brainerd
Doug Woodworth

Public

Alex Gee, HHSA/PH
Jessica Brewster
Christina Thomas
Macy Belongia
Rebekah Frankie
Kristina Guy
Michelle Dahlgren

2. **Public Comment Period**

There were no public comments

3. **Consider Approval of Minutes of September 19, 2024, Committee Meeting**

Action Item

Motion to approve minutes:

Motion/Seconded: Pendergast/ Charsha

Ayes: All

Nayes: None

Motion: Approved

4. **Review Brown Act and First 5 Shasta Strategic Plan 2019–2026.** Woodworth provided an overview of the Brown Act and the goals of the First 5 Shasta Strategic Plan. Dickens pointed out that we will begin planning and working on the next strategic plan this year (2025) and we will be working with the Evaluation & Advisory Committee to measure community needs and provide input to the strategic plan to begin in FY 2026–27.
5. **First 5 Shasta Annual Report for FY 2023/24.** Woodworth provided a brief summary of the First 5 Shasta Annual Report delivered to First 5 California on October 31, 2024.
6. **Healthy Babies Program expansion/rebranding:** Alex Gee, MCAH Director, Shasta County HHSA/PH presented information on the goals, purpose and expansion to the new name, “Healthy Moms & Healthy Babies”. Due to the increased demand and need in our community, the program has expanded to include additional mental health services and a “mother-to-mother peer group” to help mothers with needs but not severe enough to require mental health counseling. Pendergast and Poole pointed out that the program is funded jointly by HHSA/PH and First 5 Shasta to eliminate funding barriers for families in need. It was also pointed out that the program is for mothers with “mild to moderate” mental health needs, not for anyone with “severe and persistent” mental health needs. Both PH and F5S are working on programs for fathers, “Supportive Fathers”, and fathers suffering from postpartum depression.

7. **Maternity Services in Shasta County, Family First Maternity Center.** Macy Belongia, Rebekah Frankie, and Kristina Guy presented information about the new Midwifery service they are opening in Shasta County. Services include prenatal, Doula, postpartum, breast feeding, mental health, and others.
8. **Dolly Parton's Imagination Library:** Dickens presented an overview of progress made in establishing a consortium within Shasta County to join the "Imagination Library" to increase book distribution and literacy to more areas for the county. The program distributes high quality, age-appropriate books every month to children at no cost to the family. The child's parent/caregiver enrolls each child online. Once enrolled, each child would receive one book per month until the reach 5 years of age. Families with multiple children would receive one book per month for each child enrolled.
9. **Week of the Young Child/ First 5 Shasta 25th Anniversary:** Scott provided an overview of the Week of the Young Child sponsored by First 5 Shasta April 4 to 12, 2025. The window to apply for Week of the Young Child (WOYC) grants has closed. Applications will be reviewed next week and those receiving grants will be notified. Grantees will present assorted events and activities for children and families around the county during WOYC. WOYC paper dolls are being distributed to area childcare providers. Children will color and decorate the dolls as they choose. Dolls will then be displayed at local businesses so children can travel around town to see their artwork on public display and to increase public awareness of WOYC. WOYC celebrations will kick off Friday, April 4th with a public event at Whistle Stop Park in downtown Redding. The event will include booths by community partners providing information for caregivers and crafts and other entertainment for children and families. This event will also be celebration of the 25th anniversary of the founding of First 5 Shasta. Deadline to apply for WOYC grants but applications for Good Neighbor Grants (GNG) will be accepted until April 30, 2025, (or until available funding runs out).

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

The next Meeting of the First 5 Shasta Evaluation & Advisory Committee, March 20, 2025.

Submitted By,
Doug Woodworth