

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

Topic: First 5 Shasta Evaluation and Advisory Committee Meeting

Time: January 15, 2026, 9:00 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86803555133?pwd=8liLvrpnwtYMYKHSaW6wpn4so9YqtK.1>

1. Call to Order

Welcome and Introductions Amber Condrey, Data & Evaluation Coordinator

Committee

Gordon Chatham
Brian Cole (9:45 departed)
Matt Plummer (9:10 arrived)
Tracie Neal (9:15 arrived)
April Jurisch
Kathy Berry
AJ Anderson
Daniel Walker

Staff

Wendy Dickens
Liz Poole
Amber Condrey
Megan Johnson
Nicole Godman

Public

Michele Grupe
Jenna Berry
Eleanor Lee

2. Public Comment Period

Members of the public are entitled under the Brown Act (Government Code Section 54950 et seq) to address the Commission on any matter within the Commission's subject matter jurisdiction.

Members of the public may speak for up to three minutes on any matter concerning the Commission, with the exception of items appearing elsewhere on this agenda or items related to pending judicial, administrative litigation, or personnel matters. The Act prohibits the Commission from taking action or discussing the item unless it is already on the agenda.

Recusal Reminder

All members are reminded to recuse themselves from voting on any agenda item that has a real or perceived conflict of interest.

3. Consider Approval of Minutes from November 20, 2025 Committee Meeting

Action Item

Motion to approve minutes: Kathy Berry

Motion/Seconded: Gordon Chatham

Ayes: All

Nayes: None

Motion: Approved

4. Partner Updates

Wendy Dickens shared that Good Neighbor and Week of the Young Child grants are open. Amber shared that there are also new Practitioner's Voice of California (PVCA) grants for childcare providers to expand advocacy and professional development. Links to apply were sent out to the committee for sharing. Kathy Berry suggested inviting James Gallagher, who is running for the vacant position from LaMalfa's passing, and suggested Wendy Dickens help spearhead and pull in providers like Head Start, Office of Education to the area to discuss early education and family issues or at minimum sending him a letter uplifting some of the issues.

5. Program Presentation

Raising Shasta Parent Partner Program discussion from Jenna Berry, Executive Director and Eleanor Lee, Data & Records Manager shared about the restructuring of Raising Shasta's programs following the end of their AmeriCorps funding. The detailed how they have shifted from funding specific individuals to funding services, allowing them to continue operations with fewer staff members. The organization maintained the same number of teen center members but reduced parent partners from 8 to 5. They emphasized their commitment to supporting staff during this transition, successfully placing most former AmeriCorps members in new positions with partner agencies. The



discussion highlighted the significant impact of losing AmeriCorps funding on the community, as it provided high-quality, cost-effective services that are now harder to replace. Key current needs identified for families included housing, transportation, and mental health support, with an increasing number of parents seeking help for their own mental health issues. Additional discussion included sustainability through becoming a Partnership Healthcare Enhanced Care Management (ECM) provider and the challenges related to that system. Michele Grupe also offered to help address any questions related to ECM challenges. Tracie Neal asked about utilization of Targeted Case Management (TCM) as another billing possibility.

6. First 5 Shasta Evaluation & Advisory Committee Draft Charter

Action Item

Amber Condrey shared a draft Charter that included purpose, structure, term, roles and responsibilities, and committee meetings. Matt Plummer asked about evaluation work and the group has and it was shared that with the new Strategic Plan the hope is to look at the evaluation work that First 5 has done and how to improve evaluating program impact and making recommendations for future improvement. The committee agreed to review evaluations of approximately 65 grants and 30 upcoming awards, with plans to present findings at the March meeting. They also discussed the need to improve representation from rural areas of the county and agreed to modify their role description to focus on suggesting options and strategies for program evaluation rather than guiding implementation directly.

Motion to approve with noted edits: Tracie Neal

Motion/Seconded: Matt Plummer

Ayes: All

Nays: None

Motion: Approved

7. First 5 Shasta Award Nomination

Wendy discussed as part of the upcoming Week of the Young Child in April, award nominations to recognize community efforts in early childhood development. The group reviewed last year's awards and discussed two specific categories, Family-Friendly Business and Family First Policies, for which they sought nominations from the public. There was discussion about what policies are family friendly and future updates to the First 5 Shasta website to include policy examples for businesses. Tracie Neal and Kathy Berry volunteered to help with selection committee, and Wendy agreed to distribute nomination forms electronically. The team aimed to have nominations by early March to allow time for selecting winners and coordinating award presentations.

8. Dolly Parton Imagination Library Update

Megan Johnson reviewed progress on the Dolly Parton Imagination Library program, which has enrolled 2,481 children since September 2025, with \$2,296 in community donations supporting 174 children. The program costs approximately \$32,000 annually, with SCOE and First 5 contributing \$21,500 each. They explored ideas for expanding outreach, including reaching out to large employers, hospitals, and smaller communities through targeted mailings and partnerships with organizations like Mayor's Memorial. The group also discussed the possibility of implementing lactation pods in public spaces like malls and airports, though this would require further investigation of costs and logistics.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

The next Meeting of the First 5 Shasta Evaluation & Advisory Committee, March 19, 2026.

Submitted By, Amber Condrey, Data and Evaluation Coordinator