

Scheduled meeting held in person and via Zoom.

Topic: First 5 Shasta Evaluation & Advisory Committee Meeting

Time: March 21, 2024, 9:00 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

## 1. Call to Order 9:00 AM

Welcome and Introductions by Doug Woodworth, Data & Evaluation Coordinator

### Evaluation Committee Members:

Kathy Barry (F5S Commissioner)  
Brian Cole (F5S Commissioner)  
Amy Pendergast  
Jenn Snider  
Tracie Neal

### First 5 Shasta Staff:

Wendy Dickens  
Liz Poole  
Megan Johnson  
Jackie Scott  
Doug Woodworth

### Audience

None

### Attending via Zoom:

Gordon Chatham  
Beverly Charsha  
Brandy Isola  
Susan Wilson

Guest Presenter: Tracy Osterday, RN, (HHS-A-PH)

A quorum was present.

## 2. Public Comment Period

There were no public comments.

## 3. Review/ Approve Minutes from 1/10/2024 meeting.

### Action Item

Motion to approve minutes from 1/10/2024 Evaluation and Advisory Committee meetings.

**Motion / Seconded:** Cole/Pendergast

**Ayes:** All

**Nays:** None

**Motion:** Approved

## 4. Home Visiting Collaborative Update:

Poole provided an update on the Shasta HV Collaborative, which is part of a 22-county region working together to explore options and develop partnerships for home visiting in Shasta and other counties served Partnership Health Plan. We are all working towards various ways of supporting and integrating home visiting into services in their counties. We are focusing on strengthening our coordinated screening and referral through Help Me Grow to get families connected, to make it easier for providers to refer families to home visiting services and to eliminate confusion about eligibility and wait times by having one place where families can call in and find out what they're eligible for and get connected to the home visiting service that is appropriate for their situation. We're also looking at supporting and training our home visiting staff and attracting more fathers into HV services.

## 5. California Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative (CYBHI):

Poole announced that First 5 Shasta was awarded a "CYBHI" grant for two years. F5S will work in coordination with SCOE and Children's Legacy Center to implement and expand trauma-informed cognitive behavioral therapy and some support groups for families, as well as training for providers in TFCBT to train 20 new providers in TFCBT over this time period. The grant was supposed to run for two years, July 2023 through June 2025. We've been told that we should be allowed a "no cost" extension to be able to do have the full 2 years of implementation.

**6. Data on Cannabis and Pregnancy:**

Tracey Osterday, HHS/PA/PH presented information cannabis use during pregnancy in Shasta County. The reported rate of any cannabis use during pregnancy from 2019-2021 was 15.2% in Shasta County compared to 5.1% statewide. Cannabis use during pregnancy is linked to health concerns related to growth and development of the fetus, and, later, cognitive development of the infant. Studies on laboratory animals show similar results. Additional studies into cannabinoid use and concurrent use of alcohol found that when you use alcohol and cannabis together in animals, you're seeing almost a double rate of abnormalities than you would see with just either cannabis alone or alcohol alone. So, we definitely caution people against consuming alcohol and cannabis together. Prenatal and post-natal reports show that 34 to 60% of marijuana users continue use during pregnancy, with many women believing that it's relatively safe to use during pregnancy and less expensive than tobacco. So, adverse socioeconomic conditions such as poverty and malnutrition may contribute to outcomes otherwise attributed to marijuana. There is insufficient data to evaluate the effects of marijuana use in infants during lactation and breastfeeding. And in the absence of such data, marijuana use is discouraged.

**7. Local Childcare and Development Planning Councils (LPCs): Jenn Snider, Shasta County Office of Education**

Snider spoke representing the Shasta County Local Childcare Planning Council, "LPC" for short. LPC is funded through the California Department of Social Services (CDSS). The Shasta LPC is a "Brown Acted" organization. In addition to childcare needs, we also serve as the Early Childhood Subcommittee for Reach Higher Shasta and as the leadership team for the Inclusive Early Education Expansion Program, or "IEEEP". She then facilitated the Committee through the needs assessment with a focus on the "parent input" piece. The needs assessment involves looking at data for our county by zip codes about how many children are in the zip code, how many children are eligible for subsidized care, how many children are enrolled in subsidized care. We look at where there are childcare needs in our community. A known problem in Shasta County is having fewer childcare providers in our community than we've ever had before, particularly for infants and toddlers. We have fewer infant and toddler spaces than we did 18 years ago.

The Committee worked individually and then as a group to share ideas on childcare needs in Shasta County. Snider's goal is to complete the needs assessment by the end of the fiscal year.

**8. Week of the Young Child, update: Jackie Scott, First 5 Shasta, Grants Coordinator**

Scott announced that Week of the Young Child (WOYC), activities will be April 6 – 13, 2024. WOYC calendar of events and informational postcards are printed and being distributed throughout the county. Some are available here at First 5. The postcards contain a QR code that can be used to access the WOYC calendar on your smartphone. Local municipalities, Redding, Anderson, Shasta Lake City, and the Shasta County Board of Supervisors are making proclamations. Paper dolls have been distributed to businesses around the county for public display. Wendy will be interviewed on local radio to inform the public about WOYC activities. First 5 Shasta provided 16 grants for WOYC and there are more events than that. That means other community partners are presenting WOYC activities without the need for F5S sponsorship.

**9. PVCA Grant, update: Jackie Scott**

Scott updated on the PVC Grant Cohort. The 16 local ECE practitioners (grantees) are learning about advocacy and legislation, how laws are passed and how to influence their legislators, how to talk to the people in charge, and how to know who the key stakeholders in Shasta County are.

Some of the PVCA cohort participated in "Advocacy Day in Sacramento and were able to speak directly with state senator Dahle.

In March, Jackie, Wendy, and Amy Belcastro attended the Early Learning Conference in San Diego and presented about what First 5 Shasta has accomplished with the PVCA grant.

## 10. Help Me Grow Update: Megan Johnson

Johnson stated that she is working with KIXE (PBS television) to create some advertising to promote Home Visiting in Shasta County and then the home visiting will point to Help Me Grow Shasta to get connected to home visiting services. It's about \$10,000 worth of advertising but because of our partnership, they're able to do this for us. We just need to recognize KIXE on our outreach materials.

Woodworth announced that the HMG National Fidelity Assessment for calendar year 2023 is due by April 1, 2024, and he presented statistics of accomplishments by HMG Shasta.

## 11. New/different areas of focus for the Evaluation/Advisory Committee?

Woodworth asked the Committee for ideas/suggestions of programs, topics, and other areas that First 5 Shasta could focus on and gain real evidence of the positive impact First 5 has on our community.

**There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:06 pm.**

The next Evaluation Committee meeting is scheduled for 9:00 AM, Thursday May 16, 2024