FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FIRST 5 SHASTA CELEBRATES WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD!

Join in the annual celebration to spotlight early learning, young children, their teachers and caregivers, families, and the community!

Shasta County, CA: First 5 Shasta and many early learning providers in Shasta County are partnering with the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) the week of April 6th through 13th to create fun-filled, activities throughout the week that celebrate our youngest learners! While there are designated themes for each day during the Week of the Young Child, celebrations are organized and coordinated by community organizations and early childhood programs that provide critical services to young children and families. Celebrations will be happening across Shasta County all week!

First 5 Shasta is sponsoring several activities across the county for you to enjoy with the young children in your life. You can find more information regarding events at: Week of the Young Child | First 5 Shasta. These activities for children foster social emotional development, inclusion, parental connections, physical and cognitive development. Here are just a few examples of the activities for you to enjoy throughout the week:

- Pathway's To Hope for Children's "Welcome to the Jungle" event, featuring Games, Prizes, Activities, Story Time & Resources
- Redding Library's Rev, Rumble and Roar! Children will have a chance to explore different vehicles, attend a transportation themed story time, along with other fun activities.
- The City of Redding's Grasshopper Bug Run. Children are invited to dress like their favorite bug and challenge themselves through fun obstacles.

The NAEYC also offers many resources for you to celebrate with the young children in your life at <u>WOYC Activity Resources | NAEYC</u>.

As we celebrate children, in interacting with them and providing developmentally appropriate experiences, we support the development of millions of new neural connections that are forming every second of a child's first few years of life. Children develop neural connections faster in the first 5 years than any other time in their life. Thus, it is important to support children in these critical years of development.

We look forward to you joining in the celebration of the Week of the Young Child! First 5 Shasta is committed to thriving children and families in Shasta County. We work diligently to advance a diverse, dynamic early childhood profession and support all who care for, educate, and work on behalf of young children and families. We are proud to celebrate the Week of the Young Child with our community!