



AGENDA ITEM: 25-01  
DATE OF MEETING: MARCH 12, 2025  
ACTION:   
INFORMATION:

## **REVIEW AND RECOMMEND NOMINATION FOR 2025 CHAMPION FOR CHILDREN AWARD RECIPIENT**

### **SUMMARY OF REQUEST**

Review the Champion for Children nominations received and approve one nominee to submit to the Commission for consideration and approval as the First 5 Riverside County 2025 Champion for Children Award recipient.

### **BACKGROUND**

First 5 Riverside County's Champion for Children Award was created to honor and bring awareness to people and organizations whose leadership and advocacy embody the vision of First 5 Riverside County, where all children in Riverside County are healthy and thrive in supportive, nurturing, and loving environments and enter school ready to learn and embrace lifelong learning.

The Commission approved the establishment of the Champion for Children Award and selection criteria, as recommended by the Advisory Committee, in September 2019. Since then, an annual process has been conducted for the Advisory Committee to receive and review nominations and select their recommendation to forward to the Commission for approval.

A call for nominations was released on January 8 and promoted countywide with news releases, posts on social media, and email messages to First 5 funded agencies, stakeholders, and supporters. The nomination window concluded on February 19. A total of eight (8) nominations have been submitted during the nomination period. The slate of nominees was sent to the Advisory members for their individual review in preparation for the consideration of one nominee to recommend to the Commission for approval.

Upon approval by the Commission, the 2025 Champion for Children will be recognized at a Riverside County Children and Families Commission meeting, on the First 5 Riverside County website and social media. The recipient will receive a recognition award (costs not to exceed \$100) and a sponsorship (based on Commission policy) of up to \$1,000 in their name given to support a community event of their choice.

**2025 Champion for Children nominations received:**

1. First 5 Riverside County received nominations for a total of **eight individuals**. The Advisory Committee received a Nominee eligibility checklist (matrix) that gives a broad overview and verification of each nominee to meet the award eligibility requirements.
2. Submitted Nomination forms and a scoresheet for each Advisory Committee member to complete are available on a shared Google Drive link.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

That the Advisory Committee:

1. Review and select one nominee to forward to the Commission for consideration and approval as the 2025 First 5 Riverside County Champion for Children Award recipient.