



**MINUTES
FIRST 5 RIVERSIDE COUNTY
Advisory Committee Regular Meeting
Wednesday, January 22, 2025
11:00 AM**

Advisory Committee Present: Malinda Margiotta, Kari Middleton-Hendrix, Angel Anton, Antonia Eli Mast, and Jiles Smith

Advisory Committee Absent: Agam Patel and Saovaros Diehl-Hope

Advisory Committee Vacancy: Districts I, II, V

Administrative Staff Present: Tammi Graham, Executive Director; Yvonne Suarez, Assistant Director; Charna Widby, Deputy Director; Michael Knight, Deputy Director; Lynn Stephens, Executive Assistant IV; Larissa Wills, Regional Manager; Sean Pravica, Senior Public Information Specialist; Michelle Rodriguez, Public Information Specialist; Martina Guevara, Commission Coordinator; Victor Lopez, Business Process Analyst II

Legal Counsel: Kristine Bell-Valdez, Supervising Deputy County Counsel

A. Call to Order – Malinda Margiotta, Advisory Chair

1. Pledge of Allegiance – Led by Advisory Member Smith
2. Roll Call – Conducted by Martina Guevara, Commission Coordinator

B. Public Comments (for items not listed on the agenda) – Malinda Margiotta, Chair

C. Commission and Advisory Committee Business – Malinda Margiotta, Chair

1. Oath of Office for Advisory Committee Member
Administered To Angel Anton by Kristine Bell-Valdez, Supervising Deputy County Counsel.
Ms. Bell-Valdez welcomed Ms. Anton and noted that the Oath of Office document was handed to Martina Guevara, Commission Coordinator
2. Director Updates – Tammi Graham, Executive Director; Yvonne Suarez, Assistant Director; Charna Widby, Deputy Director; Michael Knight, Deputy Director – Supervising Deputy County Counsel.

Ms. Graham acknowledged Martin Luther King Jr. Day, stating that every year at the Commission and Advisory Committee meetings, staff recognizes his impact on the United States and the work we do every day under our diversity, equity, and inclusion work. Ms. Graham informed Advisory Members that the DEI Officer for Riverside County will attend the Commission Meeting to pay tribute to Martin Luther King Jr. and also recognize the DEI work happening in Riverside County.

Ms. Graham welcomed Advisory Member Anton to the Committee and gave a brief introduction. Advisory Member Anton thanked everyone and provided an overview of her background.

Presented by Tammi Graham

- CSAC Challenge Award Winner – First 5 Riverside County
- Assembly Member Corey Jackson and CA Family Resource Association staff FRC Visit
- 2024 Annual All Staff Meeting
- 2024 State of Riverside County
- French Valley Learning Experience and Child Care Center Groundbreaking
- Escuela de la Raza Unida Alegría Infant and Toddler Learning Center Open House and Community Event
- Riverside County State of Education Address March 5, 2025 - First 5 Sponsorship

Presented by Charna Widby

- CalWORKs Home Visiting
- Expanding Drowning Prevention Efforts
- Partnership with Children Services Department –To support families who have experienced a Near Drowning

Presented by Yvonne Suarez

- Finance Subcommittee Overview

Advisory Member Smith questioned the possibility of extending the Finance Subcommittee term to 2 years. Ms. Graham responded that a placeholder is already in the March Commission Agenda.

3. Public Information Updates Presented by Sean Pravica, Senior Public Information Specialist.

- Winter Events at the FRCs
- 25th Anniversary Celebration Planning

Advisory Member Mast volunteered to assist with event coordination. Chair Margiotta congratulated F5 Team for the awards and all the work Ms. Graham and the staff have done.

4. Advisory Committee Comments

5. First 5 Riverside County Advisory Committee Annual Chair and Vice Chair Process/Elections Presented by Kristine Bell-Valdez, Supervising Deputy Counsel.

Ms. Bell-Valdez referenced the Ordinance 784 regulations for Advisory Committee Annual Chair and Vice Chair Process/Elections.

Ms. Graham confirmed Kari Middleton-Hendrix accepted her nomination as the Chair and Malinda Margiotta accepted her nomination for Vice-Chair.

*Advisory Member Mast moved to approve the Chair nomination for Kari Middleton-Hendrix and Vice Chair nomination for Malinda Margiotta. Advisory Member Smith second the motion. Commission Coordinator, Ms. Guevara conducted a roll call. **Ayes:** Mast, Anton, Smith, Middleton-Hendrix, Margiotta. **Absent:** Advisory Members Patel and Diehl-Hope. **Motion Carried Unanimously.***

D. Consent Items – Kari Middleton-Hendrix, Chair (a copy of all action items and attachments can be viewed at www.rccfc.org and at the Commission Business Office)

1. Approve First 5 Riverside County Advisory Committee Draft Meeting Minutes - October 23, 2024 Session.

*Advisory Member Mast moved to approve consent item. Advisory Member Smith second the motion. **Abstain:** Advisory Member Anton. **Absent:** Advisory Member Patel and Diehl-Hope. **Motion Carried Unanimously.***

E. Presentation/Information Item – Kari Middleton-Hendrix, Chair

1. Family Resource Center Presentation Presented by Michael Knight, Deputy Director
Chair Middleton-Hendrix introduced Michael Knight.

- Family Resource Center Update
- Integrated Service Delivery

Chair Middleton-Hendrix commented, “Fantastic presentation.” She inquired about Mr. Knight’s background, to which Mr. Knight offered an overview of his experience. Chair Middleton-Hendrix expressed her gratitude, thanking Mr. Knight for his response.

Chair Middleton-Hendrix asked if there were any plans for expansion beyond the two sites currently using integrated services delivery. Mr. Knight stated that First 5 has five sites, two of which already use integrated service delivery. Once the Start System is online, the remaining three sites will implement it, incorporating four key components: Whole Person Health Score, Universal Referrals and Consent, Warm Handoffs, and Closed Loops.

Advisory Member Mast asked about the distinction between Family Resource Centers (FRCs) and alternative partner sites marked in red on the presentation slide. She inquired whether these sites were Human Services departments that were not integrated into the FRCs and requested an example.

Mr. Knight explained that community-based organizations, many originally from home visitation programs, are partnering with Family Resource Centers (FRCs) rather than establishing physical FRCs in every district. These partnerships focus on areas with lower Healthy Places Index scores to improve resource access. The partner sites are funded to have a network specialist trained alongside FRC staff, with shared resources and database systems to support their clients. The goal is to fully align these sites with FRC operations over time.

Advisory Member Mast inquired about funding for a network specialist trained with FRC staff to capture clientele. Mr. Knight confirmed that this is a future goal, stating it is the current focus.

2. Champion for Children 2025 Nomination Updates Presented by Sean Pravica, Senior Public Information Specialist.

Advisory Member Mast asked whether nominations are filtered. Mr. Pravica clarified that nominations are not filtered, and only 4-5 nominations are typically received annually.

Advisory Member Smith recalled a discussion last year about extending the nomination process for eligibility by District, and asked for clarification on how this might proceed.

Ms. Graham suggested adding an agenda item to discuss this further.

Vice Chair Margiotta explained that it is too late to change the current process.

Advisory Member Smith proposed adding an agenda item to recognize all nominations and to restructure the award process so there is representation in all five supervisorial districts. A discussion ensued between Advisory Member Smith, Ms. Bell-Valdez, and Ms. Graham, which concluded with the decision to add an agenda item to revisit and discuss the Champion for Children Policy.

F. Future Agenda Items:

1. First 5 Riverside County Updates

G. Adjournment: Adjournment at 12:09 p.m. to the next Regular Meeting of the Advisory Committee to be held on March 12, 2025, beginning at 11:00 a.m. at: First 5 Riverside County Children and Families Commission Office 585 Technology Court - Conference Room A Riverside, CA 92507

Meeting Minutes Recorded by Lynn M. Stephens, Executive Assistant IV.