



AGENDA ITEM: 25-37

DATE OF MEETING: September 10, 2025

ACTION: ☒

INFORMATION: ☐

**APPROVE CONTRACT EXTENSIONS FOR FAMILY RESOURCE NETWORK AGENCIES
AND AUTHORIZE NEW RESOURCE SPECIALIST CONTRACTS
FROM SEPTEMBER 15, 2025- JUNE 30, 2027
[NOT TO EXCEED \$1,000,000 - PROP 10 FUNDS]**

SUMMARY OF REQUEST

Approve extension of up to eight (8) existing contracts and two (2) additional contracts for Family Resource Center (FRC) Network Specialist positions for one year, with each agency receiving level funding of \$100,000. This transition year will maintain service continuity while advancing First 5 Riverside County's integration with countywide service strategies and development of the 2027–2029 Strategic Plan.

The extensions will enable full implementation of a coordinated, end-to-end service model incorporating the Whole Person Health Score (WPHS) and provide time for agencies to complete Community Health Worker (CHW) certification. These steps will strengthen program sustainability, open new funding opportunities, and position agencies for success in the 2027 competitive procurement. Agencies not interested in advancing the scope of work to include RivCo Connect will sunset June 30, 2026.

BACKGROUND

The expansion of the FRC Network has been essential to Riverside County's Home Visiting and Community-Based Organization Hubs since FY21/22 and FY23/24, respectively. First 5-funded Network Specialists are critical for connecting families in high-need communities with services that address health, social support, and overall family well-being.

- **Need for Extension and Expansion:** Continued one-year funding is requested to integrate First 5-funded agencies into countywide service integration strategies, strengthening referral pathways to County services while ensuring program stability

and seamless service delivery. The eligible agencies have established deep community relationships and are embedded within the populations they serve. This approach provides the time needed to complete the 2027–2029 Strategic Plan.

- **Expertise in Emergency Response Plans for Families with Young Children:** Two additional contracts will designate Network Specialists with expertise in emergency response planning for families with young children in coordination with the First 5 FRCs and the FRC Network.
- **Whole Person Health Score (WPHS):** The Family Resource Network Specialists will utilize the County’s RivCo Connect tool to administer the WPHS and referral system. The integration of the end-to-end process will strengthen data-driven decision-making and enable a more coordinated approach to family health and social services.
- **Funding and Fiscal Compliance:** The additional \$100,000 per contract will primarily fund the Network Specialist positions. All Prop 10 funds will be tracked through project codes to ensure compliance with fiscal policies, and agencies will be required to participate in annual contract monitoring.
- **Sustainability and CHW Certification:** As part of this contract, Network Specialists will be supported to pursue certification as Community Health Workers (CHWs). By aligning CHW-certified roles with RivCo Connect integration, First 5 Riverside County is not just maintaining services — it is building a bridge to sustainable funding beyond Prop 10, positioning agencies to draw down Medi-Cal Enhanced Care Management dollars, compete for targeted Office of Child Abuse Prevention (OCAP) grants, and attract philanthropic or district-level investments that will anchor Riverside County’s prevention infrastructure for the long term.

Commission Actions

On March 12, 2025 (Action Item 25-09), the Commission approved the revised Riverside County Children and Families Commission Investment of Funds contract template and the inclusion of the Whole Person Health Score Assessment Master Agreement (MA) with the corresponding Remote Access user Agreement (RAA).

On January 25, 2023 (Action Item 23-09), the Commission approved contracts for the Family Resource Center Network Expansion. These agreements supported high-need and unserved areas of the County and connected families in optimal spaces, fostering community connections.

On May 13, 2020 (Action Item No. 20-22), the Commission approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Riverside County Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) to establish and maintain a county-wide network of Family Resource Centers (FRCs) and community hubs to strengthen families, with a key focus on the prevention of child abuse and neglect.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

That the Commission:

1. Authorize the Executive Director to extend up to eight (8) existing contracts with existing agencies that commit to administer the WPHS through RivCo Connect by

the FRC Network Specialists through June 30, 2027, increasing each contract by \$100,000 for a combined total not-to-exceed amount of \$800,000 in Prop 10 funds and;

2. Authorize the Executive Director or designee to execute two new single source contracts with agencies prepared to designate a FRCNS for emergency response services at the same funding level of \$100,000 per contract from September 15, 2025 – September 15, 2026, for a combined total not to exceed amount of \$200,000 in Prop 10 funds; and
3. Authorize the Executive Director or designee to execute contracts, revise Scopes of Work, and execute other necessary documents to extend and execute Network Specialist contracts and implement changes that align with integrated service delivery.
4. Authorize the Executive Director or Designee, based on the availability of fiscal funding and as approved as to form by County Counsel, to sign amendments that exercise the options of Contracts on behalf of the Commission, including modifications of the statement of work and/or budget that stay within the intent and not to exceed amount, of said contract, without requiring further action from the Commission.

BUDGET IMPACT

Adequate funding is included in the Fiscal Year 25/26 budget and funding request will be included in the Fiscal Year 26/27 budget for commission approval.

STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE

Goal Area 3 - Resilient Families (92960)

POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Commissioner Jose Campos, Jurupa Unified School District Director

ATTACHMENTS

None