AGENDA
PUBLIC NOTICE
Regular Meeting of the Finance Sub Committee
Wednesday, May 13, 2026
11:00 AM
First 5 Riverside County
585 Technology Ct
Riverside, California 92507

This notice shall confirm the Regular Meeting of the Finance Sub Committee of the Riverside County Children and Families Commission.

Note: If special accommodations are needed to participate in this meeting, please contact Lynn Stephens, Executive Assistant IV, at (951) 955-0200 during regular business hours of the Riverside County Children and Families Commission (Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.).

Note: Public Comments will be taken on agenda items at various times during the meeting. Please submit a Request to Speak form to the Executive Assistant IV at any time before or during the meeting indicating the item you wish to address.

Note: Please place all cellular phones on vibrate or off mode during the meeting.

A. **Call to Order - Antonia Eli Mast, Advisory Chair**
   A.1. Pledge of Allegiance
   A.2. Roll Call — Martina Guevara, Commission Coordinator
B. **Public Comments (for items not listed on the agenda) – Antonia Eli Mast, Chair**
C. **Commission and Advisory Committee Business – Antonia Eli Mast, Chair**
   C.1. Oath of Office for Advisory Committee Member Jackie Steed and Audrie Echnoz — Breanna Smith, Clerk of the Board Executive Assistant; Kristine Bell-Valdez, Supervising Deputy County Counsel
   C.2. Director Updates — Charna Widby, Executive Director; Ben Slagter, Assistant Director; Patricia Perez, Deputy Director
   C.3. Public Information Updates — Sean Pravica, Senior Public Information Specialist, and Michelle Rodriguez, Public Information Specialist

C.4. Advisory Committee Comments

D. **Consent Items – Antonia Eli Mast, Chair** (A copy of all Consent Items and attachments can be viewed at www.rccfc.org and at the Commission Business Office)

D.1. Approve First 5 Riverside County Draft Advisory Committee March 11, 2026 Meeting Minutes

MINUTES
FIRST 5 RIVERSIDE COUNTY
Advisory Committee Regular Meeting
Wednesday, March 11, 2026
11:00 AM
First 5 Riverside County
585 Technology Ct
Riverside, California 92507

Advisory Committee Present: Kari Middleton-Hendrix, Malinda Margiotta, Agam Patel, Angel Anton, Antonia Eli Mast, Helena Lopez, Jennifer Briseño, and Neftalí Galarza-Toledo

Advisory Committee Absent: Saovaros Diehl-Hope

Advisory Committee Vacancy: District II

Administrative Staff Present: Charna Widby, Executive Director; Michael Knight, Assistant Director; Patricia Perez, Deputy Director; Lynn Stephens, Executive Assistant IV; Martina Guevara, Commission Coordinator; Carol Abella, Regional Manager; Larissa Wills, Regional Manager; Charity Webb, Regional Manager; Estella Briseño, Regional Manager; Sean Pravica, Senior Public Information Specialist; Michelle Rodriguez, Public Information Specialist; Steven Hernandez, Administrative Services Analyst II; Michael Avalos, Support Services Technician

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

A. **Call to Order – Kari Middleton-Hendrix, Advisory Chair**

1. Pledge of Allegiance – Led by Advisory Member Lopez.

2. Roll Call – Conducted by Ms. Stephens, Executive Assistant IV
   Advisory Member Diehl-Hope is absent. A Quorum of the Advisory Committee was established.

B. **Public Comments (for items not listed on the agenda) – Kari Middleton-Hendrix, Chair**
None.

C. **Commission and Advisory Committee Business – Kari Middleton-Hendrix, Chair**

1. Advisory Committee Recognition for Malinda Margiotta and Jiles Smith - Charna Widby, Executive Director; Lynn Stephens, Executive Assistant IV

   Ms. Widby honored Ms. Margiotta with a brief message of gratitude. She also recognized Mr. Smith for his service and support.

2. Oath of Office was administered to Advisory Member Jennifer Briseño by Kristine Bell-Valdez, Supervising Deputy County Counsel
   Ms. Bell-Valdez welcomed Ms. Briseño and administered the Oath of Office.

3. Director Updates – Charna Widby, Executive Director; Michael Knight, Assistant Director; Patricia Perez, Deputy Director

   Ms. Widby provided updates on recent activities, including the Riverside County State of Education event, Read Across America, the First 5 California Commission Meeting, the 2026 State Healthcare IT Connect Summit, and First 5 Riverside County leadership engagement in Mecca. She also highlighted a recent visit to the Mead Valley Family Resource Center.

   Mr. Knight provided an update on the reopening of the Desert Hot Springs Family Resource Center, scheduled for March 18, 2026.

   Chair Middleton-Hendrix requested a copy of the invitation for the Desert Hot Springs Grand Re-Opening event. Staff will send an invitation to the Advisory Committee and welcome their attendance.

4. Public Information Report – Sean Pravica, Senior Public Information Specialist and Michelle Rodriguez, Public Information Specialist

   Ms. Rodriguez provided updates on JFK Family Day and recent Family Resource Center outreach materials, including brochures and coloring books. She also provided an update on the First 5 Riverside County and Department of Public Social Services drowning prevention video.

   Due to technical difficulties, the drowning prevention video was not presented and will be shared at a later time.

5. Advisory Committee Comments
   None.

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

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

   Ms. Widby confirmed Advisory Member Antonia Eli Mast accepted the nomination to serve as Chair for 2026, and Advisory Member Agam Patel accepted the nomination to serve as Vice Chair for 2026.

   Advisory Member Margiotta moved to approve the Chair nomination for Antonia Eli Mast. Advisory Member Middleton-Hendrix seconded the motion.

   Ms. Stephens conducted roll call.
   - ***Ayes**: (8) Patel, Lopez, Mast, Margiotta, Anton, Galarza-Toledo, Middleton-Hendrix, Briseño*
   - ***Nays**: (0)*
   - ***Abstentions**: (0)*
   - ***Absent:** (1) Saovaros Diehl-Hope*

   Quorum maintained. Motion carried.

DRAFT

Advisory Member Mast moved to approve the Vice Chair nomination for Agam Patel. Advisory Member Lopez seconded the motion.

Ms. Stephens conducted roll call.

- ***Ayes**: (8) Patel, Lopez, Mast, Margiotta, Anton, Galarza-Toledo, Middleton-Hendrix, Briseño*
- ***Nays**: (0)*
- ***Abstentions**: (0)*
- ***Absent:** (1) Saovaros Diehl-Hope*

Quorum maintained. Motion carried.

Ms. Bell-Valdez noted that the newly appointed Chair, Mast, and Vice Chair, Patel, will assume their official roles immediately. Outgoing Chair Middleton-Hendrix then passed the gavel to Chair Mast to continue the meeting.

D. **Presentation/Information Items – Antonia Eli Mast, Chair** (A copy of all Presentation/Information Items and attachments can be viewed at www.rccfc.org and at the Commission Business Office)

1. Inland So Cal United Way — Guaranteed Income Pilot Project Presentation — Dr. Danielle Kilchenstein, Dr. PH, Executive Director, Government Relations Director, Guaranteed Income, and Joanna Osorio, Guaranteed Income Pilot Project Manager

   Dr. Kilchenstein and Ms. Osorio presented an overview of the Guaranteed Income pilot, including arly findings related to Whole Person Health Score outcomes and participant trends.

   Chair Mast asked about participant tracking and group structure. Dr. Kilchenstein stated that data will be collected through May, with follow-up surveys administered 12 months post-exit, including those conducted by the Department of Social Services and the Urban Institute. She clarified that the experimental group receives guaranteed income plus voluntary wraparound services, including randomized financial coaching, while the control group also has access to voluntary wraparound services.

2. Help Me Grow Inland Empire Presentation — Megan Daly, Director, and Chad Vercio, M.D., Division Chief of Pediatrics, Med-Peds, and Pediatric Hospitalists, Loma Linda University Children's Hospital

   Ms. Widby provided an overview of First 5 investments with Help Me Grow.

   Ms. Daly presented an overview of the Help Me Grow Inland Empire (HMGIE) initiative, highlighting its local implementation and key outcomes over the past 5 years.

   Dr. Vercio followed with an update on the current status and future direction of HMGIE, outlining opportunities for growth and ongoing system development efforts.

   A discussion ensued regarding declining youth vaccination rates in the Inland Empire area and the importance of local partnerships to build trust. Advisory Member Lopez, Chief Executive Officer of Greater Hope, highlighted its new children’s vaccination clinic and interest in collaboration. Challenges in rural pediatric care, including physician shortages, were noted.

3. Brown Act Training and Presentation on 2026 Updates — Kristine Bell-Valdez, Supervising Deputy County Counsel

   Due to time constraints, the Brown Act Training and Presentation was tabled until the next Advisory Committee Meeting.

Advisory Member Briseño moved to table the Brown Act Training and Presentation until the May 13 Advisory Committee meeting. Advisory Member Lopez seconded the motion.

- ***Ayes**: (8) Patel, Lopez, Mast, Margiotta, Anton, Galarza-Toledo, Middleton-Hendrix, Briseño*
- ***Nays**: (0)*
- ***Abstentions**: (0)*
- ***Absent:** (1) Saovaros Diehl-Hope*

Quorum maintained. Motion carried.

4. 2027-2030 First 5 Riverside County Strategic Plan Update — Charna Widby, Executive Director

   Ms. Widby reported that the strategic plan is being further refined using detailed input from community listening sessions. Themes included access, family stability, and early support, with notable differences across communities. Work continues to better define First 5's roles in leading, co-designing, capacity-building, and supporting partners. Ms. Widby noted the importance of explicitly including RivCoONE under Goal Area #4 to emphasize countywide systems integration.

E. **Consent Items – Antonia Eli Mast, Chair** (A copy of all Consent Items and attachments can be viewed at www.rccfc.org and at the Commission Business Office)

1. Approve First 5 Riverside County Draft Advisory Committee September 10, 2025 Meeting Minutes
2. Approve First 5 Riverside County Draft Advisory Committee January 21, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Advisory Member Briseño moved to approve consent items E.1 and E.2 as presented. Advisory Member Patel seconded the motion.

- ***Ayes**: (8) Patel, Lopez, Mast, Margiotta, Anton, Galarza-Toledo, Middleton-Hendrix, Briseño*
- ***Nays**: (0)*
- ***Abstentions**: (0)*
- ***Absent:** (1) Saovaros Diehl-Hope*

Quorum maintained. Motion carried.

F. **Presentation/Action Items – Antonia Eli Mast, Chair** (A copy of all Presentation/Action Items and attachments can be viewed at www.rccfc.org and at the Commission Business Office)

1. **26-01:** Review and Recommend Nominations for 2026 Champion for Children Award Recipients — Sean Pravica, Senior Public Information Specialist

   Mr. Pravica provided an overview of the 2026 Champion for Children nomination process and nomination backgrounds.

   Making a Difference
   Multiple Advisory Committee members nominated Samudra Leitan for the "Making a Difference" category

   Leading the Way
   Multiple Advisory Committee members nominated Sophia Williams for "Leading the Way" category

Advisory Member Briseño moved to approve Action Item 26-01 as presented, recommending Samudra Leitan ("Making a Difference") and Sophia Williams ("Leading the Way") as the 2026 Champions for Children. Advisory Member Lopez seconded the motion.

- ***Ayes**: (8) Patel, Lopez, Mast, Margiotta, Anton, Galarza-Toledo, Middleton-Hendrix, Briseño*
- ***Nays**: (0)*
- ***Abstentions**: (0)*
- ***Absent:** (1) Saovaros Diehl-Hope*

Quorum maintained. Motion carried.

G. **Future Agenda Items:**

1. First 5 Riverside County Updates
2. Poder Consulting Presentation
3. HealthySteps Presentation
4. Communications Plan
5. 2027-2030 First 5 Riverside County Strategic Plan Update

H. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 12:08 p.m. to the next Regular Meeting of the Advisory Committee to be held on May 13, 2026, 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.

DRAFT

E. **Presentation/Information Items – Antonia Eli Mast, Chair** (A copy of all Presentation/Information Items and attachments can be viewed at www.rccfc.org and at the Commission Business Office)

E.1. Brown Act Training and Presentation on 2026 Updates — Kristine Bell-Valdez, Supervising Deputy County Counsel

THE BROWN ACT

Kristine Bell-Valdez

Deputy County Counsel

May 13, 2026

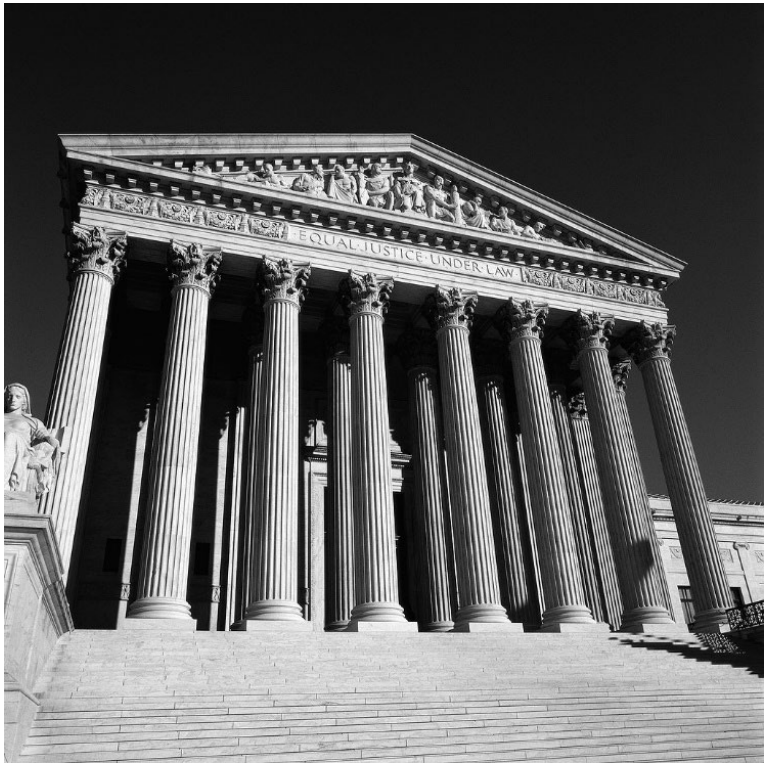
Running a Meeting

- Governing procedures for meetings:
  1. Ralph M. Brown Act and
  2. Robert's Rules of Order

- Members should use parliamentary procedures as guidelines when conducting a public meeting.

- The presentation only provides some general meeting and voting guidelines.

Robert's Rules of Order and Parliamentary Procedure



11

Overview of the Robert's Rules of Order and Parliamentary Procedure

- It is a set of rules for conduct at meeting
- It allows everyone to be heard
- It allows decisions to be made without confusion

Quorum & Voting

- Membership: 9 members

- Quorum: A simple majority (5 members) of the members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of members.

- Voting: Decisions shall be reached through majority voting which is defined as a majority of the quorum members present.
  - Ex. 10 members present would require a vote of 6 for a motion to carry

13

Quorum & Voting

- Late arrivals: Members will count towards the quorum upon their arrival and should be noted as such in the meeting minutes.

- Absence of quorum at the start of a meeting: The secretary may take steps to try to secure a quorum or may adjourn the meeting.

- Absence of quorum during the meeting: If the body loses a quorum, then the meeting must be adjourned.

- Only actions you can take in the absence of a quorum:

  (1) Take measures necessary to obtain a quorum;

  (2) Fix the date and time to which to adjourn;

  (3) Adjourn or take a recess; and/or,

  (4) Continue the entire agenda to the next meeting.

Conflicts of Interest

- Members are required to comply with all conflict of interest laws including, but not limited to, general conflicts of interest, the doctrine of incompatible offices, self-interested contracts, predetermination/implicit bias, and the California Political Reform Act.

- Determining a general conflict of interest: if you, your spouse or dependent children (including your property, business, or financial interests) will benefit financially in the action/discussion

- Procedure:
  - a. Publicly state the nature of the conflict in sufficient detail to be understood by the public;
  - b. Recuse themselves from discussing and voting on the item;
  - c. Leave the room until the item is concluded.

- **Members declaring a conflict shall not be counted towards determining a quorum for that particular action item

The Brown Act

Open and Public

The People's Business

16

Purpose of the Brown Act: Open and Public

To ensure that almost all aspects of the decision-making process of legislative bodies of local agencies are conducted in public and open to public scrutiny.

17

> *"All meetings of the legislative body of a local agency shall be open and public, and all persons shall be permitted to attend any meeting of the legislative body of a local agency, except as otherwise provided in this chapter." (Gov't Code §54953)*

Key Principles of Brown Act

- It's the public's business.
- The people only trust a process they can see.
- Conduct the people's business in open and publicized meetings.
- Allow the people (the public) to participate in the meetings.



18

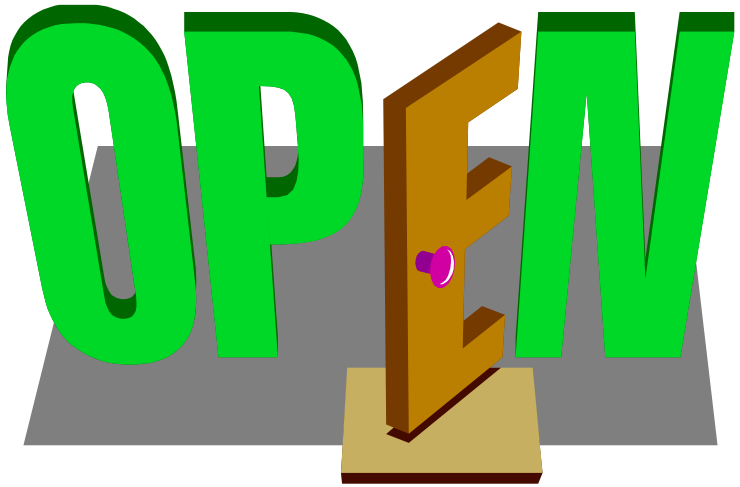
Brown Act - Legislative Bodies

The Brown Act applies only to legislative bodies:

1. Governing body of the agency (Board of Supervisors/ Children and Families First Commission)
2. Subordinate boards or commissions created by formal action of the governing body Standing committees with regular meeting schedule and continuing subject matter jurisdiction
3. Any board of directors for a private entity, if the governing body of the agency created it and delegated some authority to it.
4. Persons elected to legislative bodies, even prior to assuming office.

19

Brown Act - Meetings



All meetings of the Legislative Body of a Local Agency shall be open and public and all persons shall be permitted to attend

- Government Code §54953

Brown Act Meeting



What is a meeting?

- Any congregation of a majority of the members at the same time and location to hear, discuss, deliberate, or take action upon any matter under their jurisdiction.

- No action needs to be taken for a meeting to occur; conversations or deliberations about issues confronting their agency is sufficient.

- Includes “workshops,” “study sessions,” and retreats.

Brown Act – Meeting Exceptions

When is a meeting not a meeting?

(1) Individual contacts
be careful of serial meetings & social media

(2) Conferences and seminars - open to the public on issues of general interest to the public or public agencies

(3) Community Meetings - Town meetings or similar gatherings which are open, noticed and originated by a person or organization other than the local agency

(4) Purely social or ceremonial occasions

*Be careful and remember appearances matter.

Brown Act – Meeting Exceptions

(Continued) When is a meeting not a meeting?

(4) Attendance at a standing committee meeting (observation only)

(5) Attendance at meetings with other legislative bodies

- A majority of the body may attend an open and noticed meeting of another legislative body as long as they do not discuss among themselves, other than part of the scheduled meeting, issues under their jurisdiction.

Brown Act – Meeting Prohibited Serial Meetings

Serial meetings are expressly prohibited and illegal

Serial meetings are:

- A series of communications, direct or indirect, each of which involves less than a quorum of the legislative body, but when taken as a whole, involves a majority of the members and develops concurrence on a topic.

- "Concurrence" includes the following:
  - Advances or clarifies understanding of an issue
  - Facilitates agreement or compromise among members
  - Advances ultimate resolution of an issue

24

Brown Act – Meeting Prohibited Serial Meetings

How does a serial meeting arise?

- The members discuss, deliberate, or take action on an issue through personal intermediaries, emails phone calls, letters, written proposals, or other method.

- This also includes social media interaction or use of other group or chatting apps.

25

Brown Act – Meeting Prohibited Serial Meetings

Types of Serial Meetings

Hub and spoke



Telephone, email, social media



* Individual briefings are permitted but members should avoid making inquiries about what other members thought or said.

Brown Act – Meeting Prohibited Serial Meetings

Hub and spoke

- Member A (hub) contacts Member B (a spoke); Member A (hub) contacts Member C (a spoke); and so on until quorum of spokes have been contacted regarding discussion, deliberation, decision of a issue
- Staff member or other intermediary can serve as hub
- Briefing of members prior to formal meeting and in that process information about individual views are revealed

Daisy chain

- Member A > Member B > Member C > etc until a quorum has discussed, deliberated or decided a issue

27

Brown Act – Meeting Prohibited Serial Meetings - Emails

- **Email communication is considered a "technological device" within the meaning of "meetings" under the Brown Act**

28

- **An email violates the Brown Act when:**
  - It is used by a majority of the members to discuss, deliberate, or take action on any upcoming agenda item or anything that would be an item of business

*Beware of potential for serial meetings via "reply all" or email chains.

Brown Act – Meeting Prohibited Serial Meetings - Emails

Opinion of the Attorney General:

A majority of the members may not e-mail each other to develop a collective concurrence as to action to be taken

- Even if the e-mails are sent to the secretary and the agency chair
- Even if the e-mails are posted on the agency website and printed versions are reported at the next public meeting

Reason: Such e-mails deprive the public of the opportunity to attend and comment on the proposed action.

29

Brown Act – Meeting Prohibited Serial Meetings – Social Media

AB 992 (2020):

- Members may communicate on social media to answer questions and provide information to the public or to solicit information

30

- Members cannot post, comment, share or use digital icons to react to communications made by other members of a legislative body.

- Single contact between members of the same legislative body on social media is prohibited.

Brown Act – Meeting Tips To Avoid Serial Meetings

Tips for Members:

- Do not take a position or make a commitment on public matters yet to be decided.
- Do not use people or technology as a "go between" to transmit collective concurrence on a public matter.
- Be careful with social media and refrain from responding to any posts within the scope of official business.
- Only e-mail the entire to provide information. Do not request a response.
- Refrain from replying to an e-mail directed to a majority of the members concerning a public discussions or deliberations.
- Use e-mail as a means of passively receiving information.

31

Brown Act – Meeting Tips To Avoid Serial Meetings

Tips for Members:

- Remember: e-mails and social media posts can be forwarded without your knowledge, including to the local newspaper

- Develop and institute policies and regular trainings to ensure the use of e-mails and other emerging technologies comply with the law.

32

Brown Act – Meetings Location

- No meeting can be held in a facility that prohibits attendance based on race, religion color, national origin, ethnic group identification, age, sex, sexual orientation, or disability, or that is inaccessible to the disabled.

33

- No meeting can be held where the public must make a payment or purchase in order to be present. This does not mean however that the public is entitled to free entry to a conference attended by a majority of the legislative body.

Brown Act – Meetings Location

- General rule: Must be held within the jurisdiction of the body

  Exceptions: (Gov't Code §54954)
  - Inspection of real property
  - Pursuant to federal law or court order
  - Participation in meetings with multi-agencies after proper notice is given

- **Teleconferencing (next few slides)**

34

Brown Act – Meeting Location - Teleconference

Normal Teleconferencing requirements:

- At least a quorum of the members must to participate within the area of jurisdiction.
- Votes by roll call (i.e., each member state name and vote, one by one)
- Each teleconference location specifically identified in the notice and agenda, including a full address and room number, as may be applicable.
- Post the agenda at each teleconference location per Brown Act rules - 72 hours prior to the meeting in a spot that is available for viewing (i.e. window or glass case outside) 24 hours a day, free of charge.
- Each teleconference location must be accessible to the public and have technology, such as a speakerphone, to enable the public to participate.
- Opportunity for members of the public to address the legislative body directly at each teleconference location.

35

Brown Act – Meeting Location - Teleconference

AB 2449 (2022)/SB 707 (2026) Teleconferencing/Virtual Meetings:

5 exceptions:

1. State of emergency (AB 361 rules) – remote or hybrid
2. "Just Cause" – hybrid with quorum in person
3. "Emergency circumstances" – hybrid with quorum in person
4. "Health Authority"
5. ADA Accommodation

36

Brown Act – Meeting Location - Teleconference

AB 2449 Requirements for "Just Cause" & "Emergency Circumstances"

From January 1, 2023 through January 1, 2026, Brown Act bodies may conduct hybrid meetings (member participation both in-person and virtual) under the following circumstances:

37

1. At least a quorum of the members must participate from a physical location within the jurisdiction; and

2. Reason for a member's remote participation = "just cause" or "emergency circumstances".

Brown Act – Meeting Location - Teleconference

"Just Cause"

Qualifying Reasons:

1. Childcare or caregiving need of a child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, spouse or domestic partner;
2. Contagious illness;
3. Need related to a physical or mental disability; or
4. Travel while on official business of the legislative body or another state or local agency.

Number of Instances Permitted: limited to 2 instances per calendar year.

Request Procedure:

1. Notify the legislative body at the earliest opportunity possible (including, at the start of the meeting) of the "just cause" and provide a general description of the circumstances.
2. The member may then participate remotely. No formal action needs to be taken.

Brown Act – Meeting Location - Teleconference

"Emergency Circumstances"

Qualifying Reasons: Member has a physical or family medical emergency.

Request Procedure:

1. Make a request to the legislative body of the "emergency circumstances" and provide a general description. Personal medical information does not have to be disclosed.
2. Legislative body takes formal action to allow the member to participate remotely.

39

Brown Act – Meeting Location - Teleconference

Additional Requirements

- Number of Instances Permitted (Combined Participation of "Just Cause" & "Emergency Circumstances")
  - Not more than 3 consecutive months or 20 percent of the regular meetings within a calendar year.
  - Limited to 2 instances per calendar year, if there are only 10 meetings.

- Member Disclosure.
  - Before any action is taken, identify whether any other individuals at least 18 years of age are present in the room with the member and the relationship with any such individuals.

- Member Participation.
  - Remote participation through both audio and visual technology.

Brown Act – Meeting Location - Teleconference

Additional Requirements (continued)

- Public Access/Notice/Agenda.
  - Notify on the agenda and allow the public to participate in-person and either via a two-way audiovisual platform (e.g. Zoom, Teams) or a two-way telephonic service (i.e. conference call line) and live webcasting.

- No action taken during disruption of broadcasting of the meeting.
  - Actions taken during this type of disruption may be challenged and, if successful, be declared null and void.

- No requirement to submit public comment in advance.
  - Must allow the public the opportunity to address the legislative body in real time.

- AB 557 signed by Governor in October 2023
  - Effective 1/1/24
  - Allows teleconferencing with a Declaration of Emergency is active.

Brown Act – Meeting Agenda for Regular Meetings

Agenda Rules for Regular Meetings:

- Posted 72 hours prior to the meeting
  - Physically post in a location "freely accessible to the public" 24 hours per day and on website, if agency has website.
  - Include the time and location of the meeting

- Brief general description of each item to be discussed or addressed – including closed session.

- Publicly accessible and distributed in advance to those that request copies. A fee may be charged to recover the cost.

Brown Act – Meeting Agenda for Regular Meetings

Agenda Rules for Regular Meetings:

- List the location (with address) where the public is able to inspect public documents related to an agenda item when such documents were distributed less than 72 hours prior to the meeting.

- If requested, the agenda must be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability.

- The agenda must include information regarding how, to whom, and when a request for disability-related modification or accommodation may be made in order to participate in the public meeting.

- Tip: put the meeting dates at the bottom of the agenda for the members and public.

Brown Act – Meeting Agenda for Special Meetings

Agenda Rules for Special Meetings:

- Special Meetings: meetings called by the presiding officer or a quorum of the members for a time that is not a regularly scheduled time to discuss discrete agenda items. **Special meetings are not the norm**.

44

- Agenda contains: time, location, brief general description of each item

- Posted no later than 24 hours prior to the meeting in same manner as regular posting

Brown Act – Meeting Member Participation

- Meetings shall not begin before the publicly noticed meeting time
- Follow the agenda – only speak on those items.
- Action by secret ballot, whether preliminary or final, is flatly prohibited.
- Teleconferencing is allowed under specified circumstances. **Votes are by roll-call. (For both, virtual meeting and regular teleconference.)**

Brown Act – Meeting Member Participation

Members can only discuss items that are on the publicly noticed agenda

Exceptions:

- Adding items by majority vote for emergency situation.
- Adding items by 2/3 vote of the members of the members present at the meeting (or a unanimous vote if less than 2/3 of the members are present) because of need for immediate action that came to the attention after the agenda is posted.
- Item continued to another meeting within 5 calendar days.

Brown Act – Meeting Member Participation

(Continued…)

More exceptions:

- Brief response to statement or question from public.
- Questions to staff for clarification of a matter based upon public comment.
- Brief announcement or report on member's or staff's own activities.
- Provide reference or information to staff.
- Ask staff to report back at a future meeting on any matter.

47

Brown Act – Meeting Public Participation: Regular Meetings

The Public's Right to Comment at Regular Meetings:

- At every **regular** meeting, members of the public have the right to directly address the body on **any item of public interest if that item is under the jurisdiction of the body.**

- For agenda items, the public must be given an opportunity to comment **before or during** the body's consideration of the item.

Brown Act – Meeting Public Participation

SB 1100 (2022):

- Authorizes the presiding member of the legislative body conducting a meeting or their designee to remove, or the cause the removal of, an individual for disrupting the meeting

49

- Procedure:
    1. Individual disrupts the meeting
    2. Presiding member (or their designee) warns the individual that their behavior is disruptive & failure to cease the disruption may result in removal
    3. Individual fails to cease disruptive behavior
    4. Presiding member (or their designee) may have the individual removed

Brown Act – Meeting Public Participation

Public Participation Guidelines:

- Can speak on any item in subject matter jurisdiction
- Can criticize the policies, procedures, programs, services, or omissions of the body
- Cannot be unruly
- Not required to register
- Speaker cards are not a prerequisite
- Time limits and prohibiting disruptive conduct okay
- Rules of decorum and reasonable restrictions upon public comment are permitted, if not too broad and do not constitute "prior restraints" – Ex. 3 minute limitation is ok
- Recording permitted
- If the body reviews documents, copies of those documents must be provided without delay when requested

50

Brown Act – Meeting Public Participation Virtual Meeting

Conducting a teleconference/virtual meeting:

Duties of Chairperson or designee:

- Read public comments into the record or introduce public speaker before comment.
- Open phone line for individual public speakers.
- Remind each speaker how many minutes they have to provide public comment.
- Alert each speaker when their time is up. You can give them a few extra seconds, if you wish, but be fair with everyone.
- Close phone line for individual public speakers when their time ends.

51

Brown Act - Closed Session

Limited exceptions for closed session for matters requiring confidentiality:

- Must be expressly authorized by statute.
- Must be narrowly construed.
- Examples: real property negotiations, existing or anticipated litigation, labor negotiations, public employee issues (appointment, employment, evaluation, discipline, dismissal or release).

52

Brown Act – Violation and Consequences

Civil violation and consequences:

- A civil suit to have the action declared "null and void"
- Need to be given chance to cure and correct the problem (Government Code section 54960.1)
- Repeated violations: injunction prohibiting future violations
- A civil violation does not require that the members actually vote or take action on an item.
- Court fees and attorneys costs are recoverable.

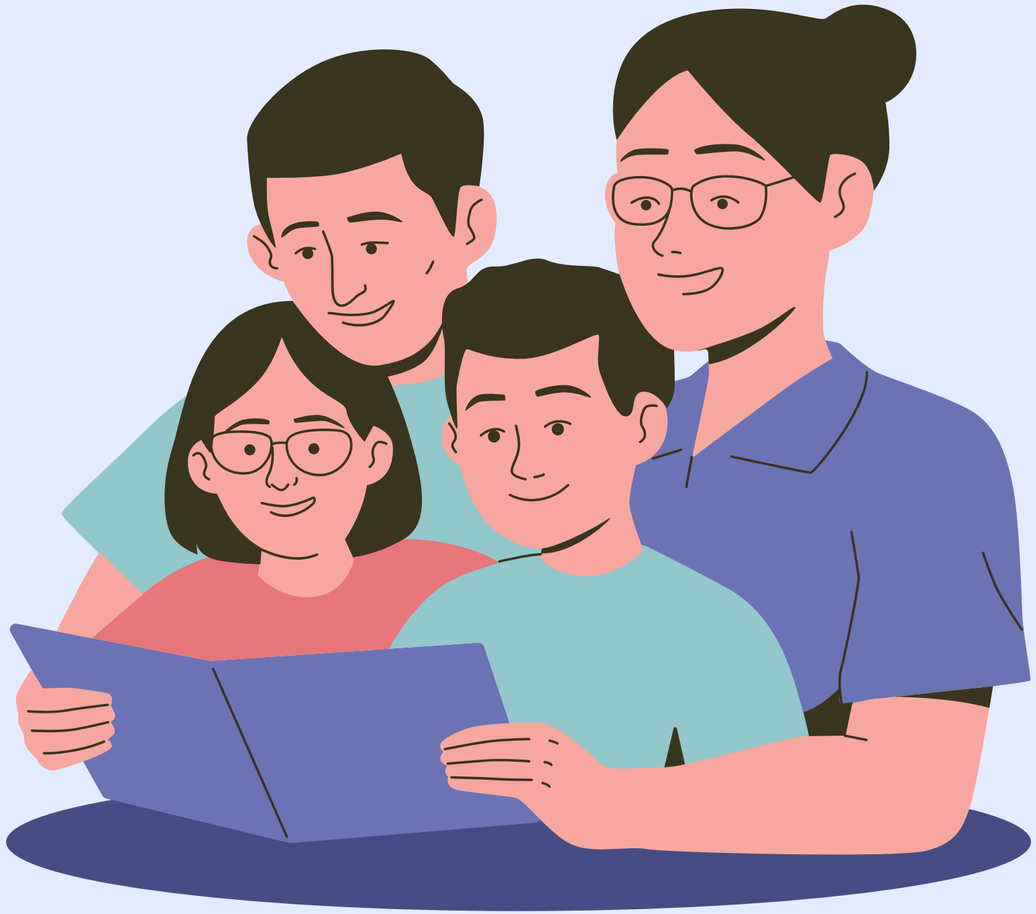
Criminal violation and consequences:

- A member takes action, intending to deprive the public of information to which the public is entitled.
- Guilty of a misdemeanor
- Criminal sanctions (up to 6 months in jail; $1,000 fine)

Brown Act
Summary of Key Points

- A majority may not consult outside of a noticed meeting.
- Meetings include any communication among a majority to hear, discuss, or deliberate on public business (e-mail, telephone calls, serial meetings etc.).
- Legislative Body includes committees, commissions and advisory boards (except ad hoc committees of less than a quorum).
- Attendance of quorum at other events not a violation as long as no business of the Committee is discussed (conferences & seminars, community meetings, another body of agency, social or ceremonial events).
- Assume all information is public or will become public.
- APPEARANCES MATTER.

E.2. Quality Early Learning Provider and Family Survey Key Findings — Poder Consulting, Jenny Perla, and First 5 Riverside County Regional Manager, Carol Abella



Family and provider listening sessions

Findings from listening sessions

Prepared for First 5 Riverside County
by Poder Consulting Group
May 13, 2026

PODER CONSULTING GROUP

Learning and research questions

1. What would it take to improve families' access to child care and other resources to ensure all children ages 0-5 are happy, healthy and ready for success in kindergarten and beyond?

- How do parents define and look for when thinking about quality in early learning programs?
- What are families' most pressing challenges in supporting their children?



Learning and research questions

1. What would it take to improve families' access to child care and other resources to ensure all children ages 0-5 are happy, healthy and ready for success in kindergarten and beyond?
   - How do parents define and look for when thinking about quality in early learning programs?
   - What are families' most pressing challenges in supporting their children?
2. What would it take to transform Quality Start to best support early learning providers to sustain their own learning and quality improvement efforts?
   - How do providers define and intentionally build the quality of their programs?
   - What are the most pressing challenges providers face in meeting the needs of families?



Our methodology

We conducted three listening sessions with families and one with providers reaching a total of 94 parents and caregivers and 9 providers.





1

Community-centered design

- Grounded in culturally-responsive, equity-driven principles
- Designed to be engaging and interactive
- Bilingual facilitation + accessible materials

Our methodology

We conducted three listening sessions with families and one with providers reaching a total of 94 parents and caregivers and 9 providers.





1

Community-centered design

- Grounded in culturally-responsive, equity-driven principles
- Designed to be engaging and interactive
- Bilingual facilitation + accessible materials



2

Multilingual + inclusive outreach

- Recruitment through trusted community partners (family resource centers)
- Materials in English and Spanish
- Flyers were passed around on social media and by community members' networks

Our methodology

We conducted three listening sessions with families and one with providers reaching a total of 94 parents and caregivers and 9 providers.





1

Community-centered design

- Grounded in culturally-responsive, equity-driven principles
- Designed to be engaging and interactive
- Bilingual facilitation + accessible materials



2

Multilingual + inclusive outreach

- Recruitment through trusted community partners (family resource centers)
- Materials in English and Spanish
- Flyers were passed around on social media and by community members' networks



3

Reducing barriers + honoring families' time

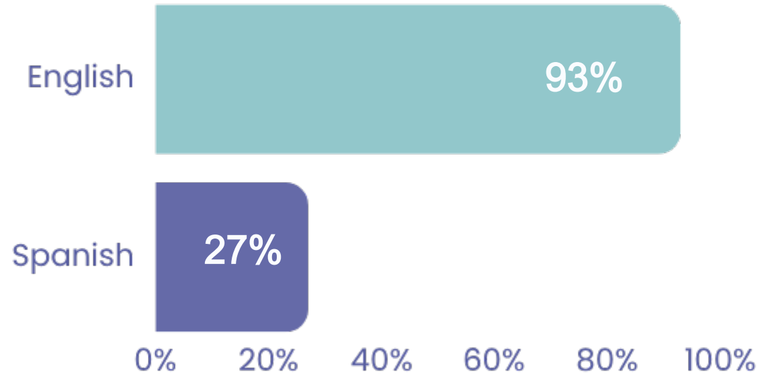
- Family listening sessions were held in-person
- Scheduled in the mornings and evenings
- In-person supports included child care, dinner, refreshments, diapers and wipes, & $50 gift cards

Who we heard from

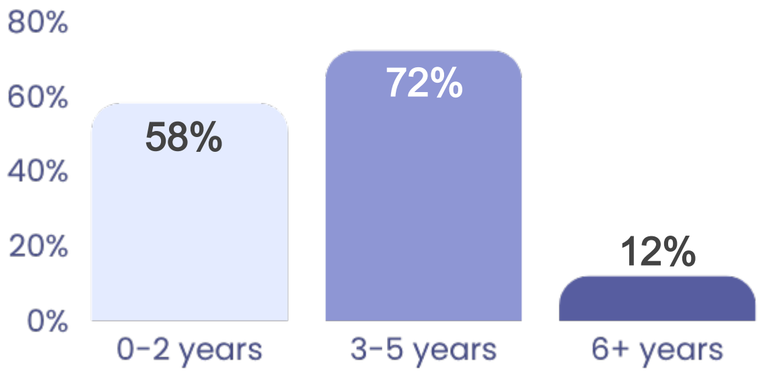


272 survey participants

Preferred language

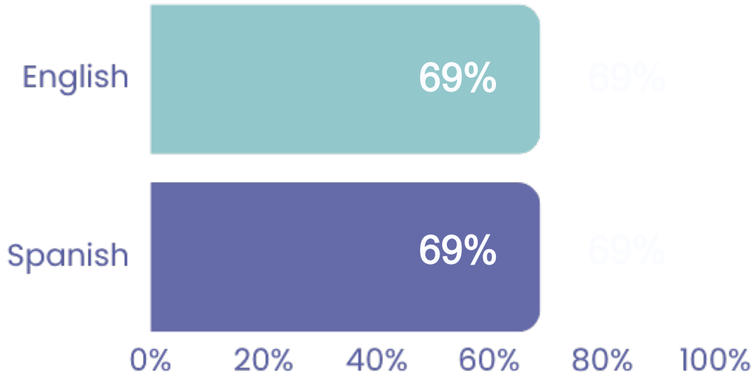


Ages of children

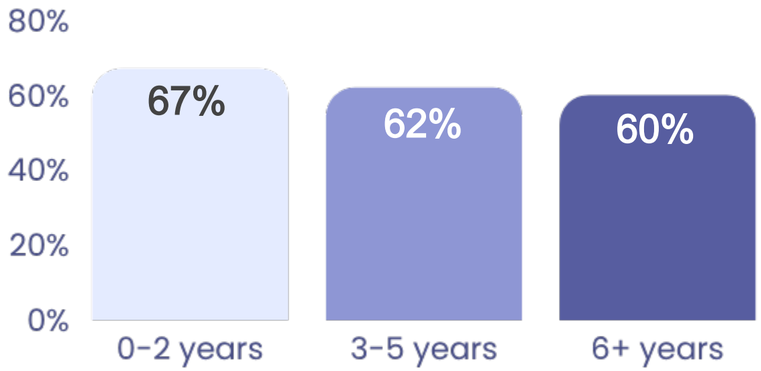


94 listening session participants

Preferred language



Ages of children



Who we heard from

Family listening sessions



	Number of attendees	Spanish speakers	English speakers
Moreno Valley	12	8%	92%
Perris	44	68%	31%
Hemet	38	37%	63%
Total	94	45	49

63

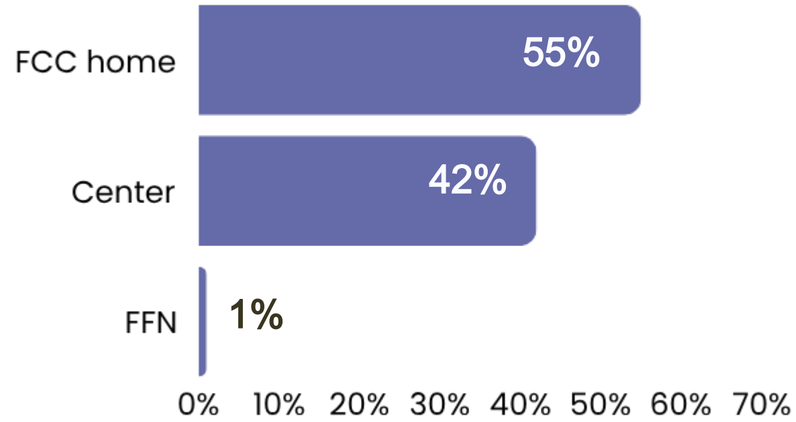
Who we heard from



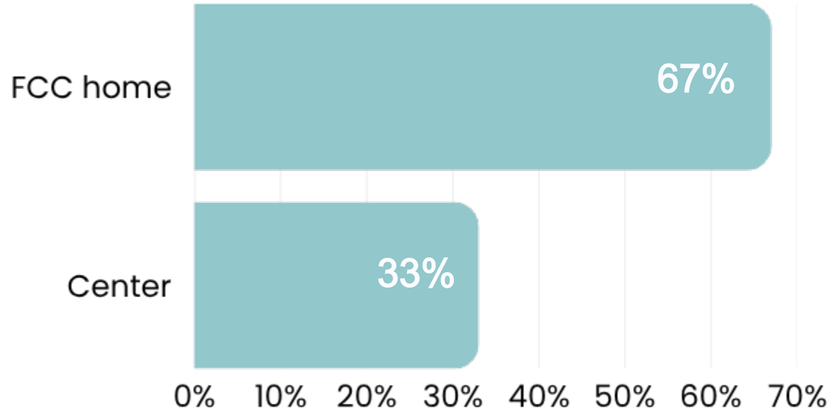
Early learning providers

- Surveyed 158
- Listening session with 9

Survey participants by type



Listening session participants by type



Family findings



1

Families define quality care as safe, clean, trusted and relational, enriching, inclusive, with qualified and trained staff, and aligned with family schedules.



2

Where child care falls short: families struggled to find care that is schedule-aligned, trusted, accessible by transportation, & equipped to support children with special needs.



3

Family needs extend beyond child care: Families are feeling financially squeezed, having difficulties getting the resources they need, and experiencing mental stress and isolation.



4

What familes need to thrive: Families want practical, local supports, from flexible eligibility and trusted navigation to connection, transportation, and spaces and activities for their children.

How families define quality child care

Families define quality child care as safe, clean, trusted and relational, enriching, inclusive, with qualified and trained staff, and aligned with family schedules.

Safety, cleanliness, and health are non-negotiables. Parents look for secure, clean, and decluttered spaces.



How families define quality child care

Families define quality child care as safe, clean, trusted and relational, enriching, inclusive, with qualified and trained staff, and aligned with family schedules.

- Safety, cleanliness, and health are non-negotiables. Parents look for secure, clean, and decluttered spaces.
- Trust, reliabiity and positive caregiver relationships are essential for parents' peace of mind.



67

How families define quality child care

Families define quality child care as safe, clean, trusted and relational, enriching, inclusive, with qualified and trained staff, and aligned with family schedules.

- Safety, cleanliness, and health are non-negotiables. Parents look for secure, clean, and decluttered spaces.
- Trust, reliabiity and positive caregiver relationships are essential for parents' peace of mind.
- Parents expect qualified, trained, and attentive staff who provide consistent, loving care.



How families define quality child care

Families define quality child care as safe, clean, trusted and relational, enriching, inclusive, with qualified and trained staff, and aligned with family schedules.

- Safety, cleanliness, and health are non-negotiables. Parents look for secure, clean, and decluttered spaces.
- Trust, reliabiity and positive caregiver relationships are essential for parents' peace of mind.
- Parents expect qualified, trained, and attentive staff who provide consistent, loving care.
- Opportunities for learning, play and social development are critical.



How families define quality child care

Families define quality child care as safe, clean, trusted and relational, enriching, inclusive, with qualified and trained staff, and aligned with family schedules.

- Safety, cleanliness, and health are non-negotiables. Parents look for secure, clean, and decluttered spaces.
- Trust, reliabiity and positive caregiver relationships are essential for parents' peace of mind.
- Parents expect qualified, trained, and attentive staff who provide consistent, loving care.
- Opportunities for learning, play and social development are critical.
- Families value open communication, transparency, and partnership with providers.



Safety is assessed through visual cues, not just formal standards:

I normally look to see if the kids look happy, if [they are] interacting with the staff, cleanliness, especially in the infant/toddler room. And how well the staff present their energy.

Families deepened the definition of quality during the listening sessions:

71

- Safety is assessed through visual cues, not just formal standards.

Safety is assessed through visual cues, not just formal standards:

I normally look to see if the kids look happy, if [they are] interacting with the staff, cleanliness, especially in the infant/toddler room. And how well the staff present their energy.

Trust is fragile, especially for new parents:

Right now? Well, it's just because of the way I am. I don't know. Being a first - time mom for the very first time... maybe I'm a little scared.

Families deepened the definition of quality during the listening sessions:

72

- Safety is assessed through visual cues, not just formal standards.
- Trust is fragile, especially for new parents and parents not currently using care.

Safety is assessed through visual cues, not just formal standards:

I normally look to see if the kids look happy, if [they are] interacting with the staff, cleanliness, especially in the infant/toddler room. And how well the staff present their energy.

Trust is fragile, especially for new parents:

Right now? Well, it's just because of the way I am. I don't know. Being a first - time mom for the very first time... maybe I'm a little scared.

Qualified staff means staff who can support children with special needs:

My son is severely autistic. He requires somebody to be with him at all times. He needs one - on - one. There should be more daycares that [have] somebody that's trained with a child with special needs.

Families deepened the definition of quality during the listening sessions:

- Safety is assessed through visual cues, not just formal standards.
- Trust is fragile, especially for new parents and parents not currently using care.
- Qualified staff also means staff who can support children with special needs.

Where current child care is falling short

Families struggled to find care that is schedule-aligned, trusted, accessible by transportation, & equipped to support children with special needs.



74

Where current child care is falling short

Families struggled to find care that is schedule-aligned, trusted, accessible by transportation, & equipped to support children with special needs.

1. Families cannot find care that adequately supports children with special needs.

> I'm going through a similar situation. Education-wise he's good but it's just when he has little moments and sensory and everything, that's when he has behaviors. But it's hard because they're just like, ‘Well we can't really help him because education-wise he’s fine’. I don't want him to be the problematic child when he just needs extra support, because in therapy he does have that extra support, but it's harder when teachers are trying to manage 20 kids.

75

Where current child care is falling short

Families struggled to find care that is schedule-aligned, trusted, accessible by transportation, & equipped to support children with special needs.

1. Families cannot find care that adequately supports children with special needs.
2. Child care is not available when families actually need it.

> It’s just the times. I wish it could be full time because sometimes we have to stop what we’re doing because we have to go and pick him up… for three hours.

76

Where current child care is falling short

Families struggled to find care that is schedule-aligned, trusted, accessible by transportation, & equipped to support children with special needs.

1. Families cannot find care that adequately supports children with special needs.
2. Child care is not available when families actually need it.
3. Trust is a major barrier, especially for new parents & parents not currently using care.

> I just had a baby so now I am getting to a point where I am going back to work soon. I wish I did it now because it's like, okay, I want to spend more time, but now it's like, who am I going to leave my baby with? I don't want to leave her with someone I don't trust.

77

Where current child care is falling short

Families struggled to find care that is schedule-aligned, trusted, accessible by transportation, & equipped to support children with special needs.

1. Families cannot find care that adequately supports children with special needs.
2. Child care is not available when families actually need it.
3. Trust is a major barrier, especially for new parents & parents not currently using care.
4. Child care is too expensive, and eligibility rules do not reflect families' actual costs.

> Childcare because each child they charge $50-$80 a child to a hundred and if you have two or three, you don't work because you have to pay $300 a day for childcare.

78

Where current child care is falling short

Families struggled to find care that is schedule-aligned, trusted, accessible by transportation, & equipped to support children with special needs.

1. Families cannot find care that adequately supports children with special needs.
2. Child care is not available when families actually need it.
3. Trust is a major barrier, especially for new parents & parents not currently using care.
4. Child care is too expensive, and eligibility rules do not reflect families' actual costs.
5. Transportation, especially among one-car households, make child care difficult to access.

> I was doing TK. I ended up having to put her in daycare because I don't have transportation and I don't trust someone with a car.

79

Family needs extend beyond child care

Many families are facing an interconnected set of challenges limiting their ability to survive, let alone thrive. Below are the biggest challenges families are currently facing.



We asked families to identify their top three challenges right now.

Family needs extend beyond child care

Many families are facing an interconnected set of challenges limiting their ability to survive, let alone thrive. Below are the biggest challenges families are currently facing.

Families are stretched thin financially by the rising cost of living and basic needs.

> How is that I'm still working but I still can't make ends meet? Cost of living, everything is getting expensive. Even though we're getting raises at work, it still doesn't balance. It's hurting our pocket.

We asked families to identify their top three challenges right now.

Family needs extend beyond child care

Many families are facing an interconnected set of challenges limiting their ability to survive, let alone thrive. Below are the biggest challenges families are currently facing.

Families are stretched thin financially by the rising cost of living and basic needs.

Families need better access to local healthcare, maternal care, dental care, and specialists.

> Prenatal too. I was pregnant and I couldn't get on the waitlist. I had to go to Orange County. There were no appointments. It’s ridiculous.

We asked families to identify their top three challenges right now.

Family needs extend beyond child care

Many families are facing an interconnected set of challenges limiting their ability to survive, let alone thrive. Below are the biggest challenges families are currently facing.

Families are stretched thin financially by the rising cost of living and basic needs.

Families need better access to local healthcare, maternal care, dental care, and specialists.

Parents described feelings of stress, isolation, and postpartum struggles.

> Just having the community be able to vent and have a safe space I think sometimes is all we really need as moms to just be like, this is hard.

We asked families to identify their top three challenges right now.

Family needs extend beyond child care

Many families are facing an interconnected set of challenges limiting their ability to survive, let alone thrive. Below are the biggest challenges families are currently facing.

- Families are stretched thin financially by the rising cost of living and basic needs.
- Families need better access to local healthcare, maternal care, dental care, and specialists.
- Parents described feelings of stress, isolation, and postpartum struggles.
- Families need safe, accessible community spaces and affordable activities for young children.

> I have to drive to a park in order to take her somewhere and see something different. With the gas prices these days, it's not good. This one's the closest one, but I'm here all day. So that's why I'd rather just go to a different park. But I wish there was something closer. Instead of building all these warehouses, build a closer park.

We asked families to identify their top three challenges right now.

Family needs extend beyond child care

Many families are facing an interconnected set of challenges limiting their ability to survive, let alone thrive. Below are the biggest challenges families are currently facing.

- Families are stretched thin financially by the rising cost of living and basic needs.
- Families need better access to local healthcare, maternal care, dental care, and specialists.
- Parents described feelings of stress, isolation, and postpartum struggles.
- Families need safe, accessible community spaces and affordable activities for young children.
- Families need navigation, outreach, and a trusted hub for resources.

> Resources and navigation. If they tell us exactly what to do, we could do it, but we just need to know where to start.

We asked families to identify their top three challenges right now.

Family needs extend beyond child care

Many families are facing an interconnected set of challenges limiting their ability to survive, let alone thrive. Below are the biggest challenges families are currently facing.

- Families are stretched thin financially by the rising cost of living and basic needs.
- Families need better access to local healthcare, maternal care, dental care, and specialists.
- Parents described feelings of stress, isolation, and postpartum struggles.
- Families need safe, accessible community spaces and affordable activities for young children.
- Families need navigation, outreach, and a trusted hub for resources.
- Transportation and distance make work, child care, healthcare and day-to-day activities harder to access.

> We live here, obviously we don't live too far from the community center, but my family lives in Riverside, so anyone that I could have pick them up is over an hour away. So it's very hard to have someone. And if I don't know anyone at school, or I don't have time to communicate with the parents at school anymore, just of how hectic the hours are now, it gets overwhelming.

We asked families to identify their top three challenges right now.

What families need to thrive

Together, the survey and listening sessions show that families need more than individual services. They need a coordinated family support infrastructure that is accessible, responsive to real-life conditions, and built on trust.

87

1. Economic supports that reflect the real cost of raising children.
2. A trusted hub or easier navigation through fragmented systems.
3. Affordable, flexible and trustworthy child care that works for real family schedules and children’s needs.
4. Local, relational supports and spaces that reduce isolation and support child development.
5. Time, flexibility, and family-centered workplace supports.

1 Families need economic supports that reflect the real cost of raising children.

What families clarified: They want a more holistic measure of need that looks beyond income & accounts for family size, caregiving, structure, & basic expenses.

Recommendation: Design eligibility and financial supports around families' real cost of living pressures, not just income thresholds.



2 Families need a trusted hub or easier navigation across fragmented systems.

What families clarified: They need a trusted hub or navigator who can help them find, understand, and use supports across child care, developmental services, mental health, postpartum, and specialty health care, and basic needs like food and housing.

Recommendation: Identify or build out a trusted hub, navigator, or warm handoff model that helps families find, understand and use resources and supports.



3

Families are looking for affordable, flexible and trustworthy child care that works for their schedules and children's needs.

What families clarified: They want child care that is affordable, safe, clean, trustworty, close to home, and available during extended hours. They also emphasized that providers should be trained to be inclusive of children with special and developmental needs.

Recommendation: Ensure families are aware of their full range of child care options and invest in training for providers to better serve children with special needs.



4 Families want local, relational supports and spaces that reduce isolation and support child development.

What families clarified: They need places where parents and young children can connect, learn, play, and get support, including:

- Parent groups and peer connection
- Playgroups, parent-child classes, & enrichment activities including sports
- Safe parks, shaded play spaces, & community centers

Recommendation: Invest in community-based spaces that combine enrichment, parent connection, and resources and supports.



5 Families need time, flexibility, and family-centered workplace supports.

What families clarified: They want more time to bond with babies, recover postpartum, balance work and caregiving, and spend quality time with their children without losing income. Transportation and distance creates additional burdens.

Recommendation: Advocate for workforce and local service infrastructure changes that give families time back and reduce the burden of accessing resources.



92

Provider findings



1

Providers define quality as safe, loving, individualized care that builds children's social-emotional foundation and is rooted in strong, trusting relationships with families.



2

Providers biggest challenges: low wages and retaining staff, enrollment instability and competition with school-based options, greater behavioral and social-emotional needs, and financial pressures.



3

What providers need: help families understand full range of child care options, support with business and marketing, and more support for children with special needs.

Challenges limiting providers' ability to sustain + grow

Providers described the following structural challenges limiting their ability to sustain and grow:



Challenges limiting providers' ability to sustain + grow

Providers described the following structural challenges limiting their ability to sustain and grow:

1. Staffing, low wages and burnout are major barriers to sustaining quality.

> Finding and retaining qualified people has been one of our biggest challenges … the caliber of people for the amount that we are able to offer for the positions.

95

Challenges limiting providers' ability to sustain + grow

Providers described the following structural challenges limiting their ability to sustain and grow:

1. Staffing, low wages and burnout are major barriers to sustaining quality.

2. Providers are seeing greater child behavior, trauma, and social-emotional needs.

> We have a lot of children with what I would consider extensive life circumstances outside of the center, significant trauma experiences. And we're not talking about one in every five children in a room. We're talking about if there's 20 children in a room, there's eight to 10 that have significant life trauma.

96

Challenges limiting providers' ability to sustain + grow

Providers described the following structural challenges limiting their ability to sustain and grow:

1. Staffing, low wages and burnout are major barriers to sustaining quality.
2. Providers are seeing greater child behavior, trauma, and social-emotional needs.
3. Family child care homes are experiencing low enrollment and competition with school-based programs.

> My biggest challenge is trying to get kids coming into my home. In the past I have had children leaving and then two weeks later I was already full with eight kids. Now it's been almost seven, eight months, no kids at all whatsoever.

97

Challenges limiting providers' ability to sustain + grow

Providers described the following structural challenges limiting their ability to sustain and grow:

1. Staffing, low wages and burnout are major barriers to sustaining quality.
2. Providers are seeing greater child behavior, trauma, and social-emotional needs.
3. Family child care homes are experiencing low enrollment and competition with school-based programs.
4. Providers feel multiple financial pressures including rising costs, low reimbursement rates & profit margins, and the pressure to absorb costs or pass them on to families.

> So some providers, they're like, oh no, we don't charge that. We just have the kids coming in. I cannot do that because I have a lot of other things that I have to build with the kids. The food is expensive, water, electricity, all of that adds up.

98

What providers need to sustain + strengthen care

We asked providers what would be most helpful to address the challenges they are navigating and if there were any resources, services or supports they wish existed for early child care providers to help them sustain, grow, and improve their services. Below is a thematic summary of what they shared.



What providers need to sustain + strengthen care

We asked providers what would be most helpful to address the challenges they are navigating and if there were any resources, services or supports they wish existed for early child care providers to help them sustain, grow, and improve their services. Below is a thematic summary of what they shared.

1. Providers want families to receive clearer, more balanced information about the full range of child care options.

> Families just need to be educated and given a full realm of what their options are and what their choices are, so that they know: go see an in-home, go see a center, go consider your family.

100

What providers need to sustain + strengthen care

We asked providers what would be most helpful to address the challenges they are navigating and if there were any resources, services or supports they wish existed for early child care providers to help them sustain, grow, and improve their services. Below is a thematic summary of what they shared.

1. Providers want families to receive clearer, more balanced information about the full range of child care options.
2. Providers want Quality Start participation to mean something recognizable to families.

> Give us more opportunity to let them know what qualifications we have. That's what we need —to have that quality that Quality Start is providing to us show that we are good providers , that we are qualified.

101

What providers need to sustain + strengthen care

We asked providers what would be most helpful to address the challenges they are navigating and if there were any resources, services or supports they wish existed for early child care providers to help them sustain, grow, and improve their services. Below is a thematic summary of what they shared.

1. Providers want families to receive clearer, more balanced information about the full range of child care options.
2. Providers want Quality Start participation to mean something recognizable to families.
3. Providers want business, marketing, and enrollment support, especially family child care providers.

> How can I continue with this when I don't have the support as a childcare provider? How about if we make a meeting and have providers come in and promote your business this way? Help us build a website, something that we can promote to teach people that we are quality . We have a quality program here at home, not just in center-based or elementary schools or Head Start.

What providers need to sustain + strengthen care

We asked providers what would be most helpful to address the challenges they are navigating and if there were any resources, services or supports they wish existed for early child care providers to help them sustain, grow, and improve their services. Below is a thematic summary of what they shared.

1. Providers want families to receive clearer, more balanced information about the full range of child care options.
2. Providers want Quality Start participation to mean something recognizable to families.
3. Providers (especially family child care providers) want business, marketing, and enrollment support.
4. Providers want training to better respond to challenging behaviors, trauma, and children with special needs.

> It would be great to see specific training on how to speak to parents about their child, especially children who have behavioral struggles.

E.3. 2027-2030 First 5 Riverside County Strategic Plan Updates — Charna Widby, Executive Director

F. **Future Agenda Items:**
   F.1. First 5 Riverside County Updates
   F.2. 2027 Champion for Children Process
   F.3. First 5 Riverside County 2026 Communications Plan Presentation

G. **Adjournment:** Adjournment to the next Regular Meeting of the Advisory Committee to be held on October 28, 2026, 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

Conflict of Interest: Any person, or group of persons present at this meeting, who wish (es) to speak on a matter may be required to state for the record any contributions, in excess of $250.00 made in the past (12) twelve months, made to any Commission member, the Commission member receiving the contribution, and the matter of consideration with which they are involved.

Agenda Posting: Agendas will be posted at the Clerk of the Board of Riverside County and the Commission Business Office.

All public record documents for matters on the open session of the Agenda are available for inspection at the meeting listed in this Agenda, and at the following location beginning three (3) days prior to the meeting date:

Riverside County Children and Families Commission
585 Technology Court
Riverside, CA 92507

If a public record document that relates to a matter on the open session of the Agenda is distributed less than 72 hours prior to the meeting date, the public record document shall be available for inspection, at the same time it is distributed, at the address listed above. Upon request, this agenda will be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with disabilities, as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.