



2750 Gateway Oaks Dr., Suite 330, Sacramento, CA 95833
(916) 876-5865; (916) 876-5877 FAX
www.First5Sacramento.net

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 5, 2010

CONTACT: Erin Blount

blounte@saccounty.net

Tel: (916) 876-6684; Cell: (916) 844-8950

First 5 Sacramento Awards \$19.6 Million in Funding to Enhance Parent Education and Home Visitation Services to Parents with Children Through Age Five

Sacramento, CA—Beginning July 1, 2010, First 5 Sacramento will partner with the Family Support Collaborative, which includes the Child Abuse Prevention Council of Sacramento and 7 partner agencies to deliver preventative services for home visitation services, parent education and support services.

The seven agencies include: Sacramento Children's Home, The Effort, Mutual Assistance Network, La Familia Counseling Center, River Oak Center for Children, Folsom Cordova Community Partnership, and Sacramento County Child Protective Services. The Family Support Collaborative will provide neighborhood-based services through eight Family Resource Centers nestled in eight geographically, culturally and linguistically diverse high need communities representing 36 zip codes (i.e. Oak Park, Meadowview, Valley Hi, Fruitridge/Franklin, North Sacramento, Del Paso Heights, North Highlands, Rancho Cordova, Arden-Arcade, Galt, and River Delta) throughout Sacramento County. . These areas have the highest rates of poverty, child abuse and neglect and teen births.

Preventative services will include family needs assessments, staff and parent training, home visitation services and support service referrals, which are offered in multiple languages including Spanish, Russian, Hmong, Laotian, Vietnamese, Chinese, Korean, and Hindi.

“The Commission is looking forward to partnering with the Family Support Collaborative program that will offer parenting services via eight geographically located family centers throughout Sacramento County,” said Roger Dickinson, Chair of the First 5 Sacramento Commission and Chair of the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors. “This partnership will allow First 5 Sacramento to provide the necessary preventative services to families in need before it escalates into a crisis. In addition, the collaborative serves as a vital safety net service for at-risk families who are referred by Child Protective Services.”

--MORE--

About First 5 Sacramento

Research shows that a child's brain develops most dramatically in the first five years and what parents and caregivers do during these years to support their child's growth will have a meaningful impact throughout life. Based on this research, California voters passed Proposition 10 in 1998, adding a 50 cents-per-pack tax on cigarettes to support programs for expectant parents and children ages 0 to 5. First 5 Sacramento County distributes approximately \$17 million a year in Prop. 10 revenues to programs and services that meet local needs. Information about First 5 Sacramento Commission programs is available online at www.First5Sacramento.net or by calling 916-876-5865.

Additional Contacts:

Sheila Boxley, Chief Executive Officer, Child Abuse Prevention Center of Sacramento (916) 244-1921

#