

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

*b2b*



**FROM:** Community Health Agency & Riverside County Children and Families Commission

**SUBMITTAL DATE:**  
May 23, 2005

**SUBJECT:** Status of Riverside County Children and Families Commission (First 5 Riverside) Home Visitation Initiative.

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:** That the Board of Supervisors:


- 1) Receive and File the Riverside County Children and Families Commission (First 5 Riverside) Home Visitation Initiative Report.

**BACKGROUND:** On November 25, 2003, Agenda Item 3.8, the Board gave approval to establish the Proposition 10 Special Revenue Fund for the Community Health Agency. At this meeting, Supervisor Buster requested that Dr. Feldman report on the status of the Riverside County Children and Families Commission (First 5 Riverside) Home Visitation Initiative program when appropriate.

Attached is the Home Visitation Initiative report from the First 5 Riverside Executive Director.

GF:ar

Departmental Concurrence

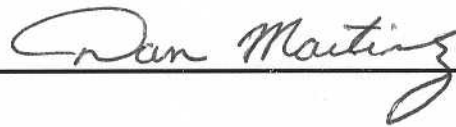
*for*   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gary M. Feldman, M.D., Director  
Community Health Agency

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Harry Freedman, Executive Director  
First 5 Riverside

<b>FINANCIAL DATA</b>	Current F.Y. Total Cost:	\$	In Current Year Budget: Budget Adjustment: For Fiscal Year:
	Current F.Y. Net County Cost:	\$	
	Annual Net County Cost:	\$	

<b>SOURCE OF FUNDS:</b>	Positions To Be Deleted Per A-30	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Requires 4/5 Vote	<input type="checkbox"/>

**C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION:** **APPROVE**

**County Executive Office Signature** 

- Policy
- Policy
- Consent
- Consent

Dep't Recomm.:  
Per Exec. Ofc.:

**Prev. Agn. Ref.:** 3.8 of 11/25/03 **District:** **Agenda Number:**



A public entity funded from Proposition 10 tobacco tax funds to provide comprehensive improvement in child development services for children prenatal through age five and their families.

**MEMBERS**

May 23, 2005

Jean Benson  
Chair

Riverside County Board of Supervisors  
Supervisor Marion Ashley, Chairman  
County Administrative Center  
4080 Lemon Street - 5th Floor  
Riverside, California 92501

Susan Loew  
Vice-Chair

Connie Beasley

Yolanda Carrillo

Re: Riverside County Children and Families Commission (First 5  
Riverside) – Report on Home Visitation Initiative

Dr. Gary Feldman

Dear Chairman Ashley and Board Members:

Dr. David Long  
County Superintendent  
of Schools

First 5 Riverside currently funds a Home Visitation Project in east - county, and is engaged in developing a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a second Home Visitation project for the pass and south county areas. The third and final RFP for this initiative will target west-county is expected to be issued next year.

Jeff Stone  
County Supervisor

Jerry Wengerd

County Board Alternate:  
Roy Wilson  
County Supervisor

Home visitation is acknowledged by research as one of the most effective modalities for producing meaningful improvements in health, social and developmental key indicators for children. As a result, home visitation is designated as a central health goal in the Commission's 2000-2005 Strategic Plan. The Commission approved the current initiative for funding in May 2001

**STAFF**

Harry Freedman  
Executive Director

Stella M. Smith  
Deputy Director

The attached update is provided in response to a request made by Supervisor Bob Buster for an update on the initiative, its impact and learnings to date. Please contact me with any questions, comments or additional details relating to this program.

Sincerely,

Harry Freedman,  
Executive Director

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**Riverside County Children and Families Commission  
(First 5 Riverside) – Report on Home Visitation Initiative  
April 22, 2005**

**History Background**

The Riverside County Children and Families Commission (First 5 Riverside) designated home visitation as one of the central health goals in the 2000-2005 Strategic Plan. The Home Visitation Initiative was approved for funding in May 2001, with a projected three phase roll-out.

Home visitation is acknowledged by research as one of the most effective modalities for producing meaningful improvements in health, social and developmental key indicators for children. The programs that serve these children have a variety of goals, including preventing child maltreatment, promoting effective parenting, improving pregnancy outcomes, and advancing the social, emotional and intellectual development of children.

The primary aim of the Home Visitation Initiative correlates with First 5 Riverside's overall goal to ensure that all children, birth to 5 years and their families, are given the opportunity and resources to thrive in supportive, nurturing and loving environments and for children to enter school healthy and ready to learn.

**Program Description and Summary**

The Home Visitation Initiative Program offers newborn screenings for children, followed by in-home assessments, in-home interventions, and case management services as needed. A standardized tool is used for the screening of at risk newborns. Based on the outcome of this screening, in-home assessments are conducted by Public Health Nurses (PHN) through a subcontract. Based on the outcome of this assessment, in-home interventions and/or referrals for services are provided. Case management services include coordination of care, linkage with existing support services, home visitation programs and the First 5 Riverside Child and Family Development Centers.

The John F. Kennedy Memorial Foundation (JKF) was awarded a contract for East County Region and officially launched the "start-up phase", on April 1, 2004. During this phase, staff positions were filled as planned and contractual agreements finalized with all the partners, including JFK Memorial Hospital, Desert Regional Medical Center, Family Services of the Desert and the Department of Public Health, Public Health Nursing Branch. Staff then began the training phase for this initiative.

The actual implementation phase of the program began July 1, 2004 with Infant screening beginning at JFK Hospital and the JFK Well Care Clinic. Infant screening began at Desert Regional medical Center July 17, 2004. Public Health Nursing completed the internal operational protocols for providing In-Home Assessments including additional training on the KEMPE Assessment Tool.

As of March 31, 2005, 1,104 babies have been screened, 227 referred for PHN In-Home Assessment, 110 actual PHN Home visits completed, 42 families referred to the Home Visitation Component for in-home interventions.

The Home Visitation Initiative is continuing to evolve, with a strong core of collaborative partners meeting monthly to discuss and assist in the efforts of the JFK staff in moving forward with services. Targeted objectives and corresponding timelines are being met. Strategies for encountered barriers are being developed and monitored.