

FIRST 5 FRESNO COUNTY
 ADMINISTERED BY CHILDREN & FAMILIES COMMISSION OF FRESNO COUNTY
FINANCE AND PROGRAM REVIEW COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, March 3, 2026

Lighthouse for Children

2405 Tulare Street

TIME: 2:30 p.m.

Fresno, CA 93721

This Regular Meeting will also be broadcasted to the public using the following link:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88207980693?pwd=bkLf5ATBEucauVdguJIDr4BBwX3xXx.1>

Meeting ID: 882 0798 0693| Passcode: 998693

The public may participate in the meeting, as otherwise permitted under the Brown Act, by joining using the link above.

AGENDA

ITEM	SUBJECT	PRESENTER
1.	CALL TO ORDER	H. Morales, Committee Member
2.	POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST Any Commission Member who has potential conflict of interest may now identify the item and recuse themselves from discussing and voting on the matter.	H. Morales, Committee Member
3.	PUBLIC COMMENT This portion of the agenda is reserved for members of the public desiring to address the Commission on any matter not on the agenda. Limit two minutes per speaker.	H. Morales, Committee Member
4. Action Pg. 1	OCTOBER 16, 2025 COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES	F. González, E.D.
5. Action Pg. 3	AGREEMENT WITH TIDES CENTER FOR THE ABRIENDO PUERTAS/ OPENING DOORS TRAINING FOR IMPACT HUB REGIONAL PARTNERS	F. González, E.D. L. Salcedo, Staff
6. Action Pg. 5	ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDS FROM WESTED FOR THE BEELS INITIATIVE AND SUBCONTRACT WITH REINKING EDUCATION CONSULTING, LLC	F. González, E.D. L. Salcedo, Staff
7. Action Pg. 8	AGREEMENT RENEWAL WITH FRESNO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH – HOME VISITING	F. González, E.D. H. Norman, Staff
8.	ADJOURNMENT	H. Morales, Committee Member

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AGENDA ITEM NO. 4

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approve the October 16, 2025, Finance and Program Review Committee Meeting Minutes.

ACTION SUMMARY MINUTES

October 16, 2025 – 11:30 a.m.

Present: Hugo Morales, Sabrina Beavers, Susan Holt

Staff: Fabiola González, Ashley Hensley, Alix Hillis, Kendalyn Mack-Franklin, Lupita Ramirez, Hannah Norman, Karen Rangel, Liliana Salcedo, Alex Treas

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None heard.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

None heard.

4. JUNE 2, 2025 COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

The Committee approved the minutes from the June 2, 2025, Committee Meeting.

Public Comment: None heard.

Motion: Holt Second by: Beavers

Ayes: Beavers, Holt, Morales

Noes: None heard

5. FINANCIAL AUDIT REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025

The Committee approved, for full Commission consideration, the Financial Audit Report for Fiscal Year 2024-2025.

Public Comment: None heard.

Motion: Holt Second by: Beavers

Ayes: Beavers, Holt, Morales

Noes: None heard

6. STATE ANNUAL REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025

The Committee approved, for full Commission consideration, the State Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2024-2025.

Public Comment: None heard.

Motion: Beavers Second by: Holt

Ayes: Beavers, Holt, Morales

7. ADJOURNMENT

Public Comment: None heard.

Motion: Beavers Second by: Holt

Ayes: Beavers, Holt, Morales

Noes: None heard

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AGENDA ITEM NO. 5

TO: Children & Families Commission of Fresno County

FROM: Fabiola González, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Agreement with Tides Center for the Abriendo Puertas/Opening Doors Training for IMPACT Hub Regional Partners

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approve, for full Commission consideration, an agreement with Tides Center for the Abriendo Puertas/Opening Doors (AP-OD) Program Acquisition Institute for IMPACT Hub Regional Partners to be trained on the AP-OD evidence-based curriculum, in an amount not to exceed \$67,470.

BACKGROUND:

Launched in 2015, First 5 California's (F5CA) Improve and Maximize Programs so All Children Thrive (IMPACT) project is an innovative approach that forges partnerships between F5CA and counties to increase the number of high-quality early learning (e.g. child care) settings across the state. Since 2016, First 5 Fresno County acts as the Fiscal Lead Agency for the Region 5 IMPACT Hub composed of First 5 Commissions and County Offices of Education in Merced, Mariposa, Madera, Kern, Kings, Tulare, and Fresno counties.

The purpose of the Region 5 Hub is to strengthen the early learning and care system to support young children and their families across the region. As the Fiscal Lead Agency, First 5 Fresno County is charged with managing all the fiscal operations and administrative components of the Region 5 Hub, such as executing contracts. Another component is to provide access to high-quality training and professional development that align with the Quality Counts California (QCC) framework.

One of Region 5 Hub's Priority Areas for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 is centered around culturally responsive family engagement - building provider capacity (e.g. early learning teachers and staff) to authentically engage parents and families. Based on feedback from Region 5 Hub partner counties, it is staff's recommendation to execute an agreement with Tides Center, AP-OD's fiscal sponsor, to provide a multi-session training to early learning educators and professionals who work directly with families and parents. The AP-OD curriculum is an evidence-based parent leadership program designed by and for parents with children ages 0-5. The mission of AP-OD is to support parents as leaders of their families and as their child's first and most influential teacher in a home that is their child's first school. Participants of this training will be prepared to work with parents to promote school readiness, family well-being, and advocacy by addressing best practices in brain development, key aspects of early childhood development (cognitive, language, physical, and social/emotional), early literacy, good health, early math, positive use of technology, transition to kindergarten, and parent leadership.

AP-OD's proposal includes two trainers who will train approximately 30 Region 5 Hub partners with a 3-day, in-person interactive training. The training will feature the newest 4th Edition AP-OD curriculum which integrates updated research, data, and additional resources based on feedback from families and facilitators. The training will be facilitated in English, but participants will receive curriculum materials in both English and Spanish.

Procurement: The Commission's procurement policy allows the Commission to select a vendor via sole source if, among other things, the vendor's capabilities and experiences are so unique that no other vendor may comparably meet the Commission's needs. The AP-OD curriculum (Abriendo Puertas/Opening Doors) ties directly to the Region 5 Hub's family engagement priority area and AP-OD is the sole creator of the AP-OD evidence-based curriculum, the only entity who can deliver this specific training to the Region 5 Hub.

Alignment with 2025-2030 Strategic Plan: The proposed agreement with Tides Center aligns with the Early Learning focus area of the Commission's Strategic Plan with the goal to increase our community's capacity to provide quality, accessible, and inclusive early learning and care opportunities for every child and family, across rural and urban neighborhoods.

Short-term goal(s) and long-term outcomes: If approved, this training will allow 30 early learning professionals from the Region 5 Hub to participate in a 3-day training and learn how to provide the AP-OD curriculum directly to parents and families with children ages 0-5. The long-term intended outcome is to build the capacity of early learning professionals across the region to authentically engage the parents and families that they work with.

Fiscal Impact: F5CA IMPACT Hub funding covers the entirety of the proposed agreement, and no local Proposition 10 revenues would be utilized.

CONCLUSION:

The Region 5 Hub is committed to providing a regional training focused on family engagement by the end of this fiscal year to complete Region 5 Hub's deliverables. If approved, this proposed agreement will move forward for full Commission consideration at the next meeting.

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AGENDA ITEM NO. 6

TO: Children & Families Commission of Fresno County

FROM: Fabiola González, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Acceptance of Funds from WestEd for the Building Equitable Early Learning and Care Systems (BEELS) Initiative and Subcontract with Reinking Education Consulting, LLC

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approve, for full Commission consideration, the acceptance of \$100,000 from WestEd as part of First 5 California's (F5CA) BEELS Initiative for First 5 Fresno County (F5FC) to serve as the Fiscal Lead Agency and approve a subsequent agreement with Reinking Education Consulting, LLC for coaching services for an amount not to exceed \$22,000.

BACKGROUND:

Funded by F5CA, WestEd is collaborating with the IMPACT Regional Hubs across the state to elevate California's quality improvement efforts through a new initiative titled Building Equitable Early Learning and Care Systems (BEELS). BEELS is designed to augment and expand local equity efforts and utilize these experiences to inform the development of a statewide equitable early learning system. Counties and regions have been focused on developing equitable systems within their communities and now there is an opportunity to bring work from around the state together to share California's story.

As part of the BEELS initiative, F5CA is providing funding through WestEd to each region to support the implementation of Regional Action Plans which have been approved by the BEELS Team, made up of WestEd members, and F5CA. Members of the Region 5 Hub have been meeting with the BEELS Team for the last year to create the Region 5 Action Plan which focuses on five Areas: Coaching, Trainers & Training Resources, Regional Planning, Workforce Retention & Staff Compensation and Institutes of Higher Education. See Table 1. for the BEELS Budget Breakdown of each of the five Areas.

The Region 5 Hub has selected First 5 Fresno County (F5FC) to be the Fiscal Lead for the BEELS funds, in a total amount not to exceed \$100,000. If approved by the full Commission, F5FC will be charged with receiving and distributing these funds on behalf of Region 5 Hub to implement the Region 5 Action Plan. The funds will be received as early as March 2026 and must be expended by September 27, 2027. Region 5 Hub members have approved the current proposed budget for the BEELS funds.

Based on feedback from Hub partner counties, to support **Area 1: Coaching** of the Region 5 Action Plan, staff recommends a subcontract with Reinking Education Consulting, LLC to bring the authors

of the book being currently used in the Regional Communities of Practice (CoPs), *Coaching for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Accessibility, and Belonging in Early Childhood*, to the annual Regional 5 Hub Coaching Event scheduled for May 29, 2026. Reinking’s proposal includes a keynote presentation and four breakout sessions facilitated by the authors, Dr. Anni Reinking and Laycee Thigpen, MS. Ed. The keynote will focus on the *why* behind coaching for equity and the breakout sessions will focus on concrete strategies and language for tailoring coaching to the educator’s readiness and moving toward equity-driven, anti-bias practice. Over 100 coaches across the Region 5 Hub attend this annual Hub Coaching Event every year.

The Table below details Region 5’s BEELS Action Plan areas and Region 5’s proposed use of the BEELS funding for each action area. This agenda item includes a proposed subcontract for Area 1 (Coaching). For the remaining funds (\$68,000), staff will bring any future proposed agreements to the Commission, in accordance with First 5 Fresno County’s approved procurement policies.

Table. 1

Region 5 BEELS Stipend Proposed Budget	
Action Plan Areas	Use of Funds
1. Coaching	Subcontract with Reinking Education Consulting, LLC for breakout sessions and keynote speakers at the annual Regional 5 Hub Coaching Event (\$22,000)
2. Trainers & Training Resources	Incentives for participation in Areas 2-5 and subcontract with a consultant to support Area 3 (\$68,000)
3. Regional Planning	
4. Workforce Retention & Staff Compensation	
5. Institutes of Higher Education	
Subtotal:	\$90,000
F5FC to collect 10% Indirect	\$10,000
Total	\$100,000

Procurement: The Commission’s procurement policy allows the Commission to select a vendor via sole source if, among other things, the vendor’s capabilities and experiences are so unique that no other vendor may comparably meet the Commission’s needs. Dr. Anni Reinking and Laycee Thigpen are the authors of *Coaching for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Accessibility, and Belonging in Early Childhood*, the book currently being used by the Region 5 coaches participating in CoPs. Reinking Education Consulting, LLC is the only entity who can deliver the breakout sessions and keynote focused on the teachings of this book to the Region 5 Hub.

Alignment with 2025-2030 Strategic Plan: The acceptance of the BEELS funds and the proposed agreement with Reinking Education Consulting, LLC aligns with the Early Learning focus area of the Commission’s Strategic Plan with the goal to increase our community’s capacity to provide quality, accessible, and inclusive early learning and care opportunities for every child and family, across rural and urban neighborhoods.

Short-term goal(s) and long-term outcomes: If approved, First 5 Fresno County will be the Fiscal Lead Agency to receive the BEELS funds and subsequently subcontract with Reinking Education Consulting, LLC to bring equity driven coaching sessions to the region. The long-term intended outcome is to expand local and regional early learning equity efforts through the BEELS initiative.

Fiscal Impact: First 5 California funding covers the entirety of the proposed agreement, and no local Proposition 10 revenues would be utilized.

CONCLUSION:

The BEELS initiative aims to create a more equitable early learning system. If approved, this item will move forward for full Commission consideration at the next meeting. If this item is not approved, Region 5 would need to identify a different Lead Agency to accept these funds to support the implementation of the Region 5 Action Plan.

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AGENDA ITEM NO. 7

TO: Children & Families Commission of Fresno County

FROM: Fabiola González, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Agreement Renewal with Fresno County Department of Public Health – Home Visiting

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approve, for full Commission consideration, an agreement renewal with the County of Fresno, Department of Public Health to provide public health nursing home visitation services to families with young children across Fresno County, in an amount not to exceed \$1,500,000 for one year.

BACKGROUND:

Voluntary, prevention-based home visitation programs pair a dedicated support person with expectant families and families with young children, building trusting relationships to identify and support their health and well-being goals. Along with First 5 Commissions across the state, First 5 Fresno County has long invested in home visitation, which continues to be cited as an effective strategy for increasing positive outcomes in maternal and child health, school readiness and family well-being by providing critical two-generation support and mitigating trauma.^{1,2,3} Locally, home visitation is a key strategy in the Early Matters Fresno investment plan, with the intent to dramatically scale home visitation services (both nurse and para-professional models) countywide.

While California has made recent historic investments in expanding home visiting programs, only a limited number of families can access these critical supports. As Proposition 10 revenues decline, it is paramount that local Commission dollars leverage state, federal and other funding to expand the impact and reach of each investment. Locally, the County of Fresno, Department of Public Health (DPH) is a lead provider of early childhood home visitation programs, leveraging federal funding with local funding.

In January 2024, the Commission approved an agreement with DPH for \$3,000,000 to provide home visitation programs for two years with the option to renew for an additional year. By partnering with DPH, the Commission is able to leverage nearly one million dollars annually in federal funding to further the vision of scaling home visitation services in Fresno County. That leveraged funding, along with the Commission’s investment has expanded the reach of multiple, unique home visitation programs: Nurse Family Partnership, Nurse Liaison and Community Health Teams.

¹ State-Level Policy Recommendations to Support Home Visiting Coordination Within California’s Early Childhood System of Care - California Home Visiting Coordination Project - First 5 California (June 2022)

² A Statewide Approach to Strengthen Home Visiting in California - Children Now (September 2023)

³ First 5 Association’s Home Visiting Policy Framework - December 2022

June 2026 marks the end of the Commission’s initial two-year award to DPH for these three home visitation programs. Based on discussion with DPH, it is staff’s recommendation to renew an agreement with DPH that shifts from three to two distinct home visitation programs: Nurse Liaison and Community Health Teams. In recent years, DPH has experienced a growing demand and increased waiting list for shorter term services for pregnant and postpartum individuals, high-risk infants and children with special health needs. And while the Nurse Family Partnership program is a reputable, evidenced-based home visiting model, the eligibility criteria of the program (e.g. first-time mothers from low-income households only) limits the number of individuals who can be served from the growing waitlist. According to DPH, increasing the number of short-term public health home visitors, such as those with the Nurse Liaison, would significantly improve their ability to meet current community needs. At present, the Commission funds only a portion of the Nurse Family Partnership program/services at DPH, so the program is anticipated to remain at DPH even if not directly funded by the Commission. Table #1 provides a description of each program and anticipated annual funding amounts from the Commission and leveraged dollars.

Table #1

Program Description	Anticipated First 5 Fresno County Annual Contribution
<p>Nurse Liaison <i>The primary goal of the Nurse Liaison program is to prevent child maltreatment by improving health outcomes and decreasing potential re-hospitalization rates for at-risk infants and children. The Nurse Liaison program provides public health nurse liaison services to Community Regional Medical Center and Valley Children’s Hospital to support infants from the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit and their families through the transition to community care, as well as high risk infants and children under six years of age living in Fresno County who because of organic or environmental factors may be at risk for growth and developmental delays and who may face serious health problems. In addition, the program serves children with developmental, or behavior challenges identified through their childcare provider and pregnant or parenting individuals referred from community-based organizations and programs such as the CalLearn program. Nurse Liaisons provide assessment, consultation, technical assistance, referral, and linkage to a variety of community programs via a home visitation model.</i></p>	\$524,610
<p>Community Health Teams <i>A cost-effective model pairing public health nurses with teams of para-professionals from community-based organizations to provide research-based home visitation services to underserved families without the eligibility guidelines of other federally and state funded programs. In this model DPH contracts with multiple community-based organizations creating Community Health Teams in Fresno County communities.</i></p>	\$975,390
Total of First 5 Fresno Award	\$1,500,000
Approximate Leveraged Funding	\$924,956
Total	\$2,424,956

Procurement: The Commission’s procurement policy allows the Commission to select a vendor via sole source if, among other things, the vendor’s capabilities and experiences are so unique that no other vendor may comparably meet the Commission’s needs. The original agreement received a sole source procurement with DPH as they are the only agency that can directly leverage state and federal funding to expand the Commission’s investment in evidence and research-based public health nursing home visitation programs across the county. The renewal would do the same. Home visitation directly aligns with the Commission’s strategic plan and partnering with DPH increases the Commission’s investment in these services by more than nine hundred thousand (\$900,000) dollars.

Alignment with the Strategic Plan: Funding allocated for this partnership will support Fresno County families primarily through the Maternal, Child, and Family Health focus area of the Commissions 2025-2030 strategic plan.

Fiscal Impact: Total funding will be allocated from the Commission’s Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Approved Revised Budget under the Maternal, Child and Family Health – Home Visitation line item in an amount not to exceed \$1,500,000 for one year. See **Table #1** for anticipated First 5 Fresno County funding per contract and approximate leverage amounts. Final funding amounts per contract will be based on contract negotiations, in a total combined amount not to exceed \$1,500,000.

CONCLUSION:

If approved this item will move forward to the full Commission for consideration at the March 2026 meeting. This recommendation aligns with the 2025-2030 Strategic Plan and will continue the Commission’s investment in local agencies directly serving children and families in Fresno County, maximizing the number of families served by leveraging state and federal funding. Ultimately, if the Commission determines not to move forward with the agreement renewal with the public health department, it would jeopardize nearly one million dollars in leveraged funding to the community.