

Mimi and Peter Haas Fund

Mimi L. Haas, President

Ari A. Lurie

Daniel L. Lurie

Peter E. Haas, Founder

To: The Honorable Members of the Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors; Supervisor Jeff Sheehy, Supervisor Hillary Ronen, and Supervisor Aaron Peskin

From: Lynn Merz, Executive Director, Mimi and Peter Haas Fund and Commissioner, First 5 San Francisco

Date: 27 February 2018

As a Commissioner for First 5 San Francisco for the past seven years, I stand committed to the organization's continuing leadership on behalf of young children, their families, and the early childhood community. First 5 San Francisco promotes and supports the healthy development and learning of all children prenatal to eight years of age, particularly those at high risk. The central focus of First 5's work is the child within hers/his family, and community. Its role as the convener, incubator and strategic investor, and system change agent serves San Francisco's mission to provide its residents a safe, healthy, and affordable community for all children and families.

First 5 San Francisco successfully developed, incubated, and grew the city's Preschool for All program within community-based early care and education centers and the San Francisco Unified School District. First 5's eleven-year commitment to oversee the implementation of the program served as a model for high quality, universal preschool programs within the state and across the nation. The commitment of city dollars then and for the next twenty-five years speaks to the city's stated priority that all its children and their families have access to the necessary educational and supportive services that guarantee all children are kindergarten ready. First 5 San Francisco successfully transitioned the coordination and continuation of this program to the Mayor's Office of Early Care and Education in order to embed this program in the fabric of the city.

First 5 San Francisco also has developed and grown the city's network of Family Resource Centers. These centers offer children, their parents, and extended family members requested services in the areas of preventive health; physical, mental health and safety; parent engagement and support; early and family literacy; access to housing opportunities; immigration services; and financial literacy. When connected to early care and education centers, Family Resource Centers provide one-stop access to integrated services that best support parents in nurturing and enriching their children's lives.

Lynn Merz, Executive Director

No other city agency is tasked with identifying how city departments and community-based organizations can collaborate to make certain the city has a robust and comprehensive early childhood system. Its long-term collaboration with the Department of Children, Youth and their Families, the Human Services Agency and now the Mayor's Office of Early Care and Education, and the Department of Public Health have provided the city with better coordinated and unduplicated services for young children and their families. When these services are prioritized and well-funded, the benefits to all children, youth and families in the city, not just those families that are affluent enough to pay for and access whatever it is their children need to be ready for school and successful in life.

Please feel free to contact me, if you would like to know about my unwavering support for First 5 San Francisco. It is an honor to serve the city in my capacity as a commissioner.

Supporting Children Ages Birth to Five in San Francisco



Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee
February 28, 2018



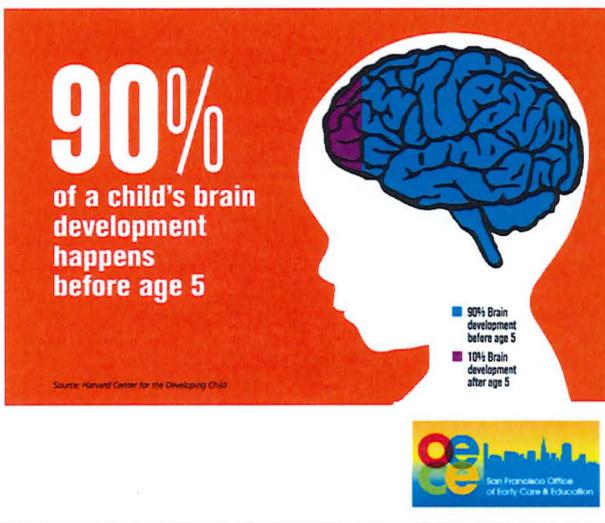
Outline

- **Why Early Childhood is Important**
- **Our Collaborative Framework for 0 – 5 Success**
- **San Francisco’s Early Learning Approach**
- **How OECE and First Five Collaborate**
- **Opportunities to Deepen Collaboration**

Why is early childhood important?

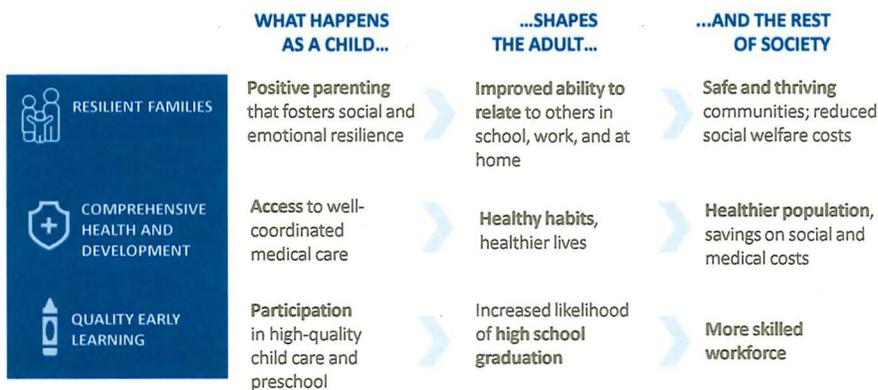
“Early experiences affect how the brain develops, shaping how children learn, behave, and grow.”

- The Center for the Developing Child at Harvard University



What Happens in the First 5 Years Affects Us All

Supporting the early years can change the trajectory of a lifetime – and a society



From: First 5 Association of California

0 – 5 Framework for Success

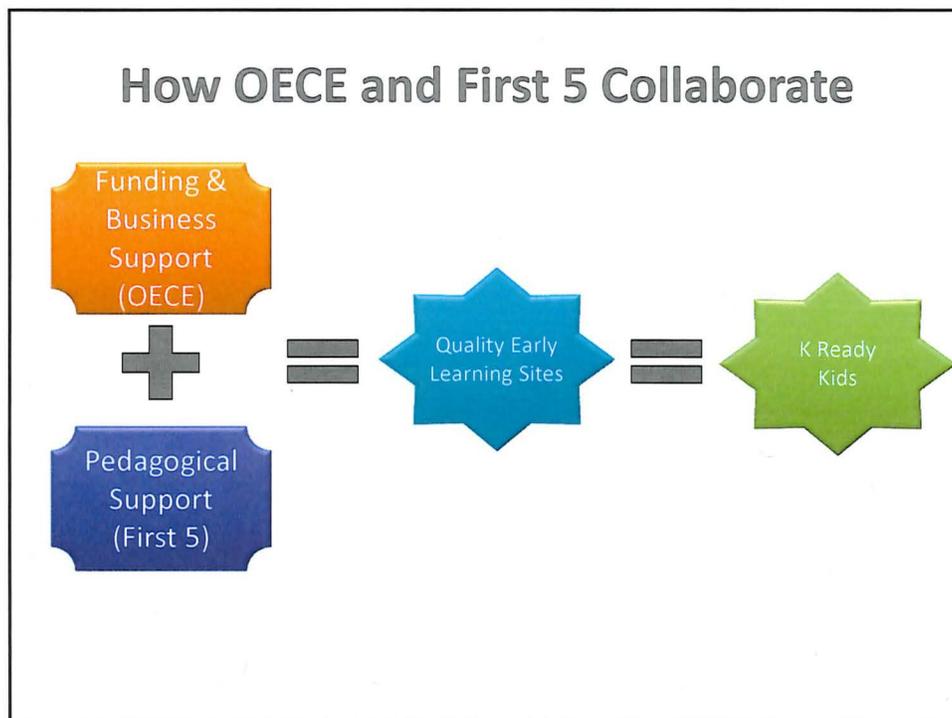
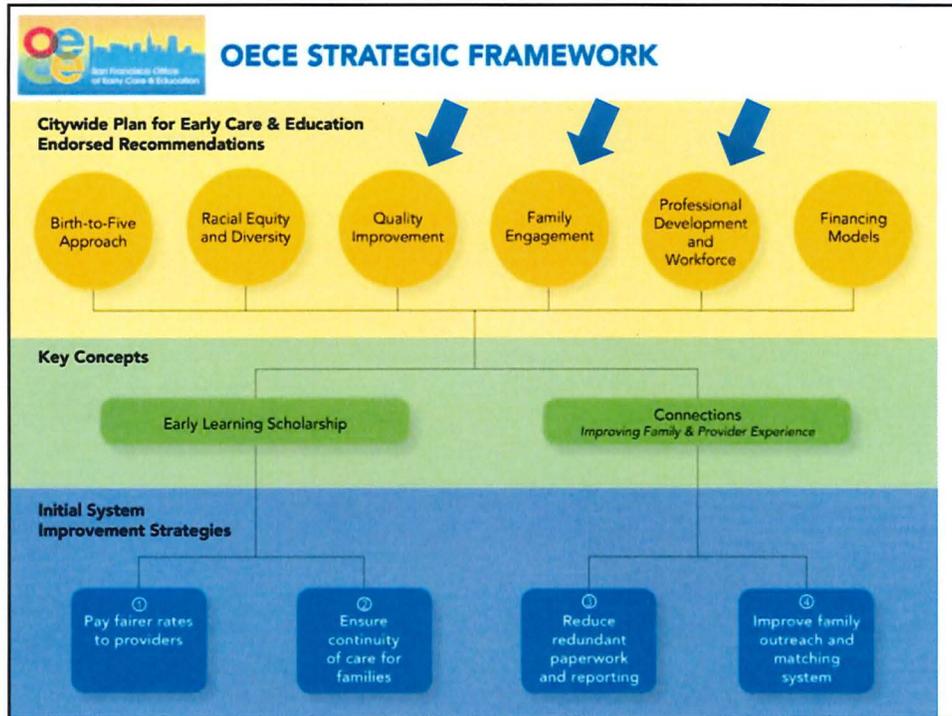


From BUILD Initiative: Building Strong Foundations for Our Kids
<http://www.buildinitiative.org/>

SF's Early Learning Approach

- SF Office of Early Care and Education (2014):
 - Enable all families with children 0 – 5 years old to access affordable, high quality early care and education
 - Address the professional development and compensation needs of the workforce in diverse early care and education settings
 - Increase the percentage of children who are kindergarten ready
- Guided by [San Francisco Citywide Plan for ECE](#)





Opportunities to Deepen Collaboration

- **Expand professional development opportunities for Family Child Care small businesses**
- **Deepen leadership opportunities for Master Teachers and Directors**
- **Explore how Family Resource Centers can more deeply support Family, Friends and Neighbors caring for young children**

SF Office of Early Care and Education



September Jarrett
Director
(415) 355-3663
September.Jarrett@sfgov.org

Graham Dobson
Government Affairs
(415) 355-3666
Graham.Dobson@sfgov.org

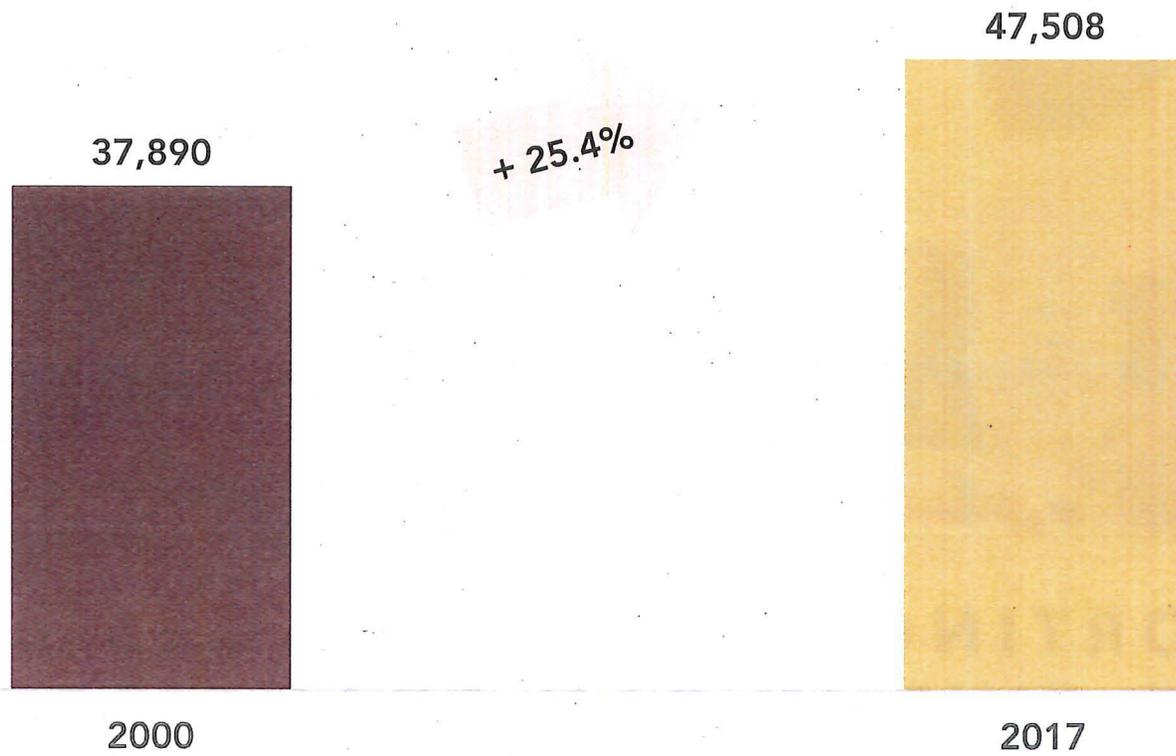




SUPPORTING CHILDREN AGES BIRTH TO FIVE IN SAN FRANCISCO

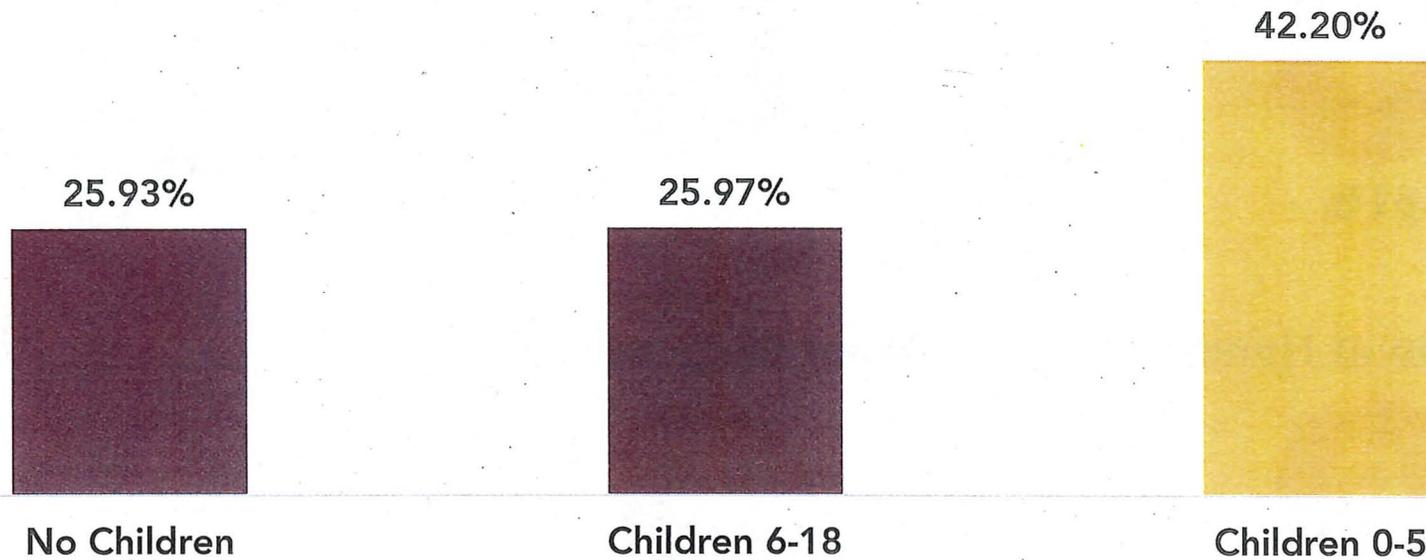
The Role of First 5 San Francisco – Past, Present, and Future

CHILDREN AGES BIRTH THROUGH 5 IN SAN FRANCISCO



HOW FAMILY FRIENDLY?

In the next three years, how likely are you to move out of San Francisco? (2017)



Households Responding "Very Likely" or "Somewhat Likely"

KEY INDICATORS AT KINDERGARTEN ENTRY

Family Supported



21%

Screened



44%

Ready for School



62%

Read to at Home



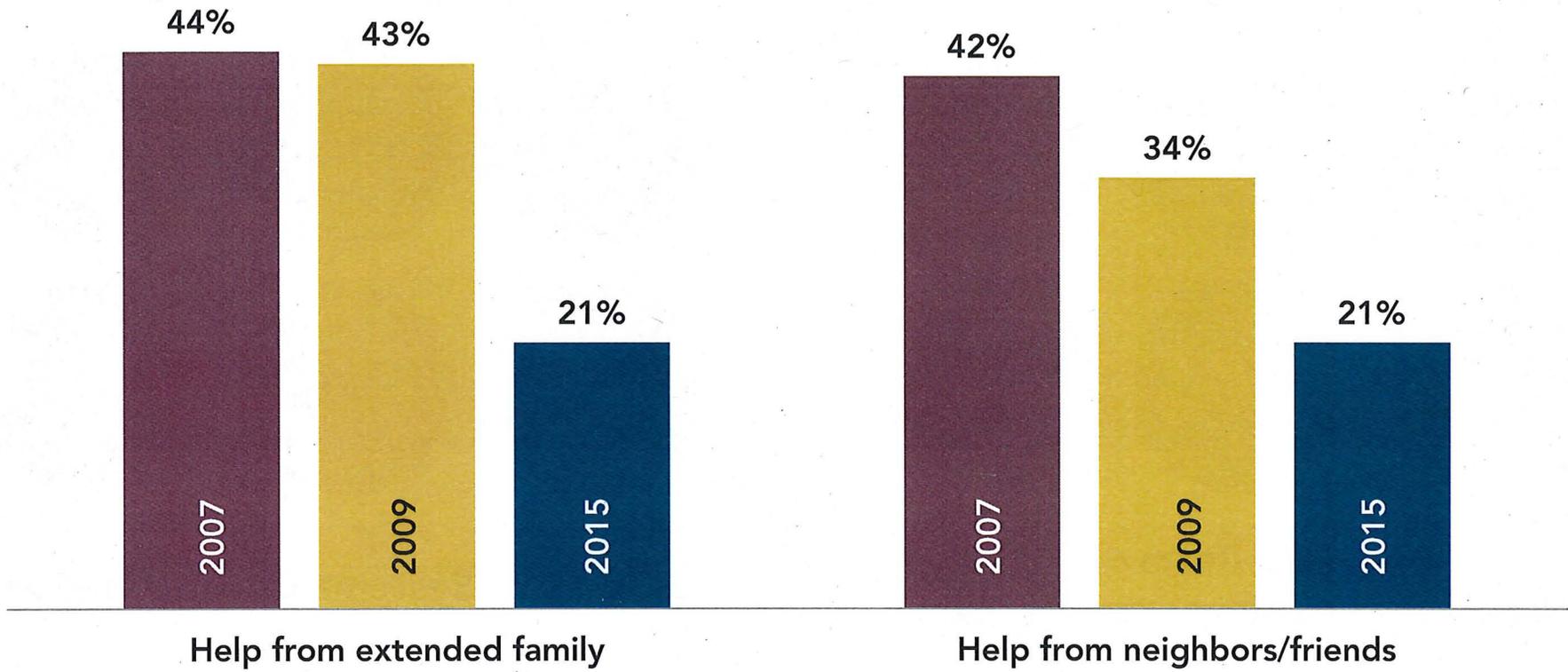
83%

Went to Preschool



92%

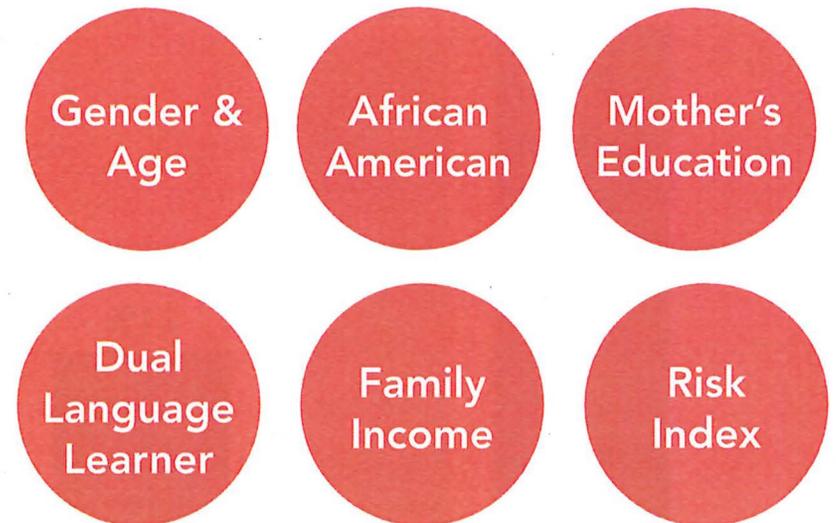
FAMILIES INCREASINGLY ISOLATED



PREDICTORS OF READINESS – 2007, 2009, & 2015



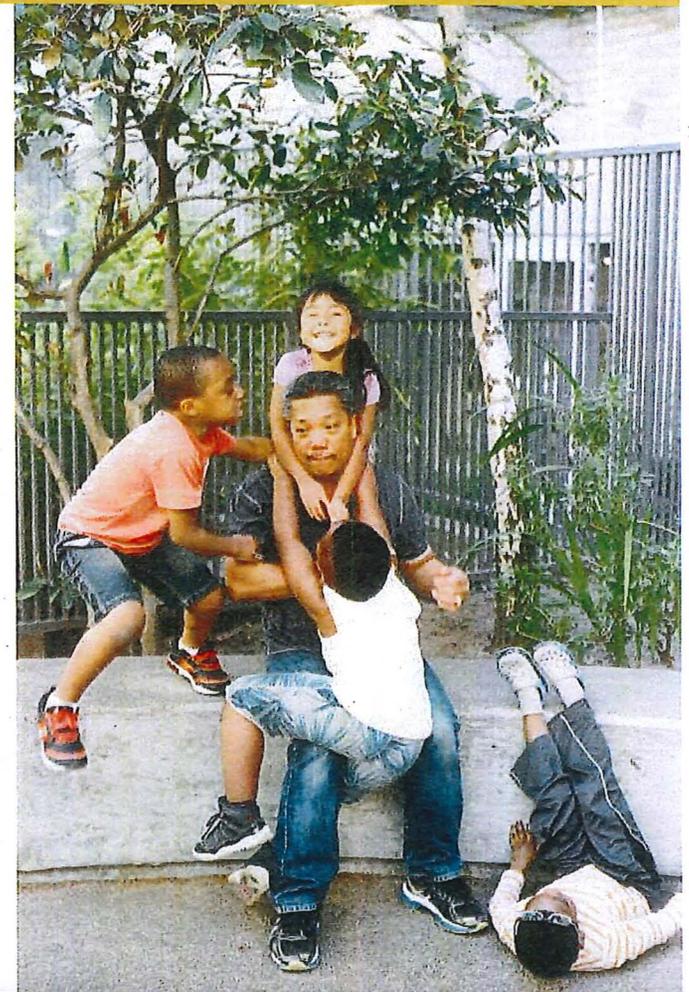
**Near-Term
Programmatic Response Needed**



Long-Term Systems Change Needed

FIRST 5 SAN FRANCISCO

- A department of the City and County dedicated to the health and well-being of children from birth through age 5 and their families
- Committed to preparing all children – ages birth through 5 – for success in school
- Created in 1998 by state Proposition 10, tobacco taxes to fund prevention and early intervention
- One state commission and 58 independent county commissions
- Locally governed by nine-member Commission – four designated, five appointed by BOS
- \$28 million budget for 2017-18





CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF PREVENTION & EARLY INTERVENTION

- **2001** – Seeded Healthy Kids to provide health insurance to children ineligible for other insurance
- **2001** – Supported community building and parent leadership through Parent ACTION micro-grants
- **2002** – Addressed the epidemic of oral caries in young children through dental screening/prevention with DPH
- **2004** – Created MDAC at San Francisco General to provide developmental assessment to children 0-5
- **2005** – Launched and led Preschool for All for 11 years, improving opportunity and readiness for 28,000 children
- **2007** – Funded first district-wide kindergarten readiness assessment in partnership with SFUSD
- **2008** – Boosted early educator compensation through BA Bonuses to teachers attaining a four-year degree
- **2009** – Launched FRC initiative with DCYF and HSA

FIRST 5 STRATEGIC PLAN 2016-2021



**Child Development /
Early Education**



**Family
Support**



**Child Health /
Early Intervention**

CHILD DEVELOPMENT / EARLY EDUCATION

GOALS

San Francisco's early education programs meet the highest standards of quality, to ensure optimal child development and improved outcomes for all children.

OUTCOMES

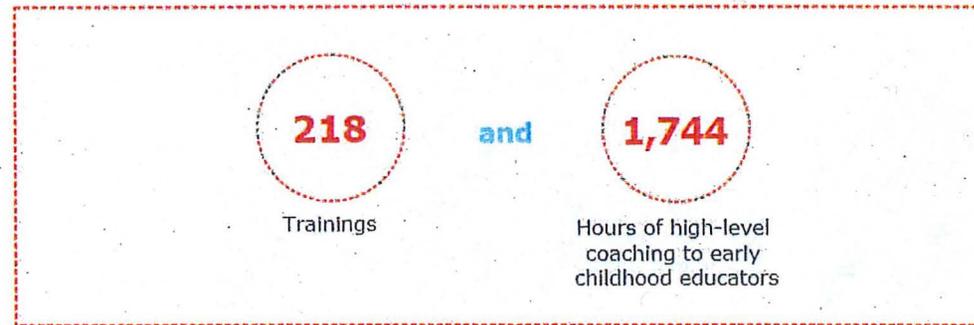
All City-funded early education programs participate in our Quality Rating and Improvement System and demonstrate continuous improvement in quality ratings.

STRATEGIES

Provide ample training, technical assistance, and coaching opportunities to all City-funded early education programs.

Assess and rate the quality of all City-funded early education programs.

EARLY EDUCATION PROGRESS



Of classrooms with an environmental rating of 5 out of 5 stars.



Of classrooms with a teacher/child interaction rating of 3 out of 5 stars or above



Of classrooms with an instructional rating of 3 out of 5 stars or above

FAMILY SUPPORT

GOALS

Family support programs help families prepare their children for success in school and beyond.

OUTCOMES

All parents and caregivers are empowered with the knowledge, skills, and resources to help their children grow and develop.

Family Resource Center staff have the knowledge and skills to deliver high-quality services to children and families.

STRATEGIES

Invest in and grow Family Resource Centers in collaboration with DCYF, HSA, and other stakeholders.

Support professional development of family support staff.

Explore new technologies to engage and support families.

FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRESS

26

Family Resource Centers
Impacting

9,978

Parents

3,172

Children/Youth

941

Number of parents
participating in FRC
parent education class

75%

Of parents demonstrate skill
improvement following a
parent education class

1,632

Youth aged 0-18 are
served in FRCs

85%

Improvement in family
well-being after
working with a FRC

CHILD HEALTH / EARLY INTERVENTION

Child Health

Establish a universal system of early identification and intervention for children ages birth through five.

GOAL

Families and providers know where to go for information and resources on children's developmental concerns.

All children are routinely screened and assessed as needed.

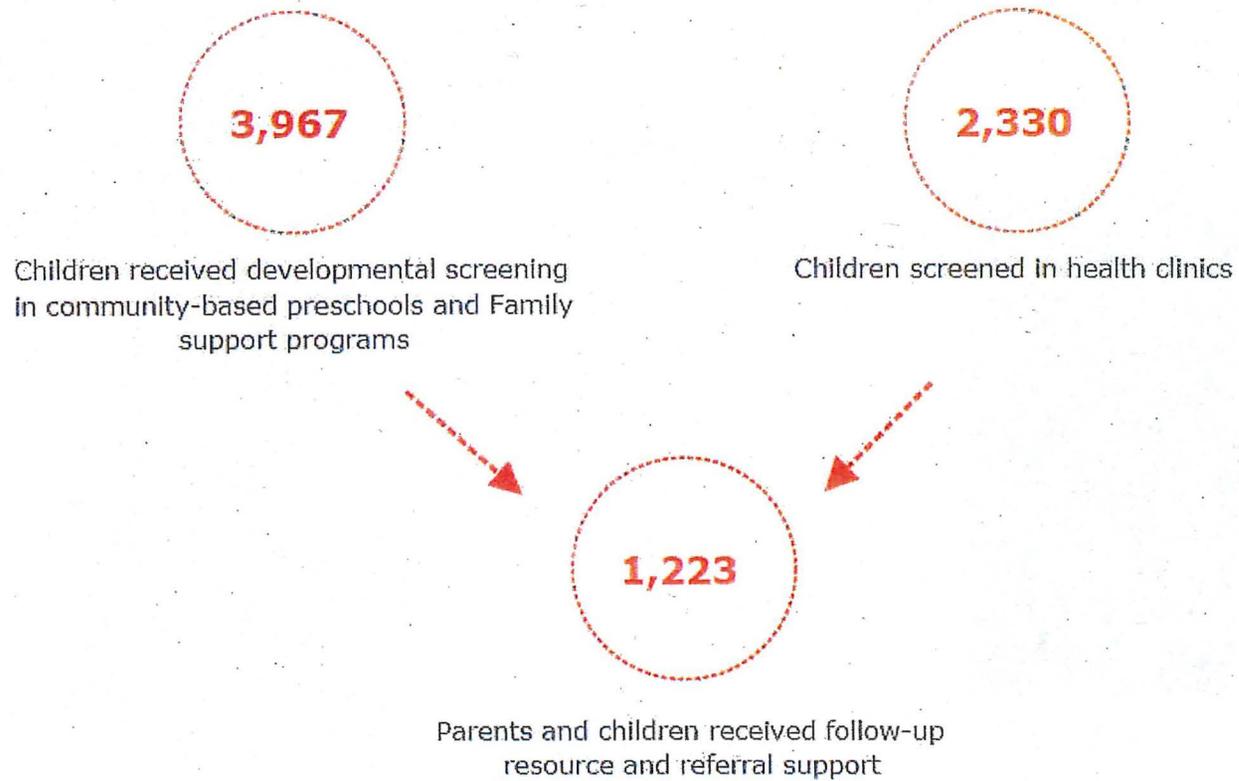
Developmental concerns are addressed before kindergarten.

ACTION

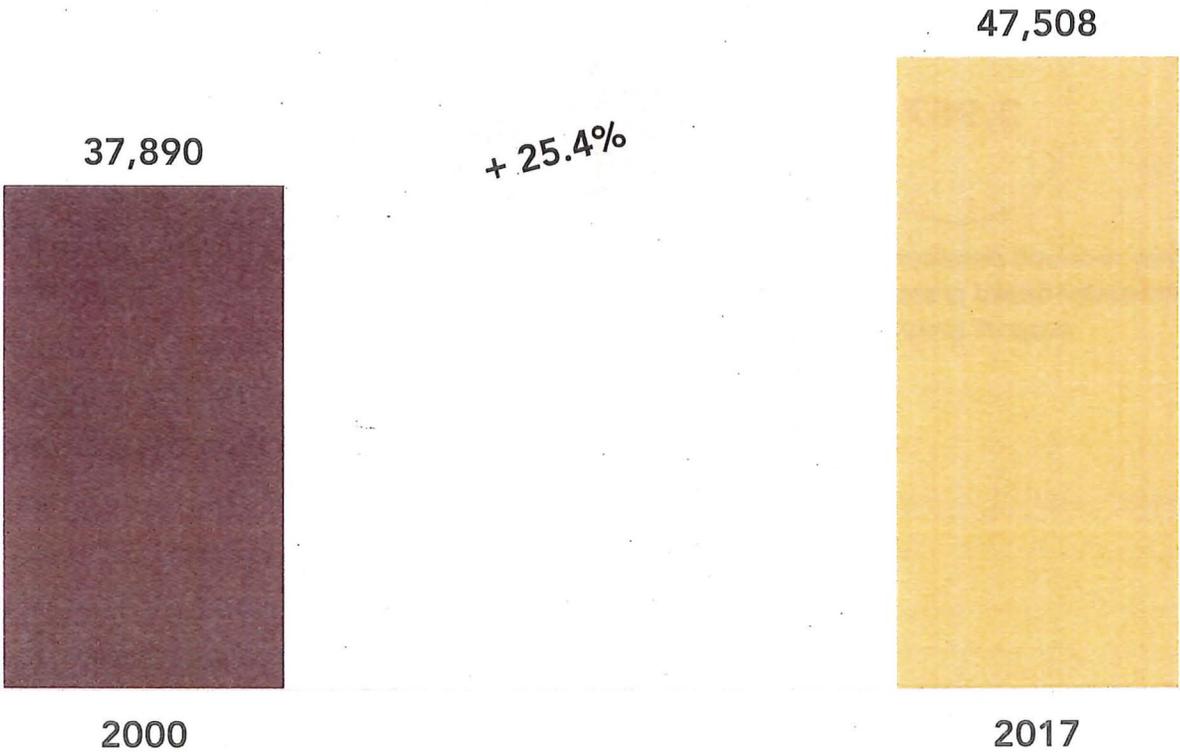
Partner with education, health care, and social service systems to screen all children and link families with services.

Develop models for coordinating and integrating services and supports to improve children's health and well-being.

CHILD HEALTH PROGRESS



CHILDREN AGES BIRTH THROUGH 5 IN SAN FRANCISCO



PROPOSITION 10 TOBACCO TAX ALLOCATION



FIRST 5 PROGRAM FUNDING AT RISK

Early Education

OECE

California
Department of
Education Grants

First 5 California
(Prop 10) Grants

Family Support

DCYF

HSA

Prop 10

Prop 10
Preservation Fund

Child Health

Prop 10

Prop 10
Preservation Fund

NEXT STEPS

Stabilize current programming and operations – especially with respect to Family Resource Centers – and avoid cliffs in 2021 and 2026. First 5 San Francisco during the next year will plan with community, public agencies and local legislators to develop a plan for long-term sustainability of the early childhood system, inclusive of FRCs.

MISSION

The mission of First 5 San Francisco is to advance a shared commitment to support young children, from birth to five, and their families with abundant opportunities to be healthy, to learn, and to grow.

VISION

All children, birth to five, will be safe, healthy, and thrive in supportive, nurturing, and loving families and communities. They will start school eager to learn and grow with confidence and connections to families, community, and society.