

Board Inquiry Form

Board Member	
Carbajal	
Wolf	
Farr	
Gray	x
Centeno	

Department: General County Programs, First 5 Date: 6-8-09

Budget Pages(s):

Request/Question:

How can the County use First 5 funding to provide non-direct medical expenses to children to children ages 0-5?

Report Back by: Pat Wheatley, First 5 Director

Response:

The First 5 or Proposition 10 funding can be utilized to fund non-direct medical expenses and program services for children ages 0 to five. Currently several programs are proposed within the 09/10 budget: *Early mental health and special needs* \$500,000, *Healthy Kids Program* \$200,000, and *Family Case Management Service* \$826,000, which directly supports child welfare services referrals. In the context of the existing budget proposed (pages D-492 to D-496), approximately **\$2.8** million can be considered discretionary monies which *could be* allocated by the First 5 Commission to fund programs for non- direct medical expenses for children age 0 -5 with the caveat that such programs meet the guidelines of The California Children and Families Act of 1998.

It should, however, be noted that the First 5 Commission grant funding process and notice of allocation to program providers occurred in April and May with final votes of the Commission on May 28th. Therefore, for the 2009-10 fiscal year the First 5 Commission has made one year funding recommendations for the disbursement of the **\$2.8** million in discretionary funding as well as the additional \$2 million in foundation monies leveraged as a result of these funds. All funds are scheduled for disbursement in July. This funding is provided to contract agencies as well as the County via individual program contracts.

Future Funding: Primarily requests for funding of programs with First 5/Prop 10 funding are considered during its strategic planning/programming process. The upcoming strategic planning process for fiscal year 2010-11 and the upcoming program planning period of 2011-2016 begins on June 15, 2009 with the initiation of the new First 5 Commission Strategic Plan to be completed in September 2009. Therefore specific requests for future program funding needs should be immediately communicated to the First 5 Commission for consideration as part of the overall direction of the Strategic Plan and future application, granting and allocations processes.