

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Proposals to Increase Child Care in High Need Areas Sought**

**(MARCH 5, 2010) RIVERSIDE, CA** — First 5 Riverside, the Riverside County Children & Families Commission, is seeking new proposals to help expand the availability of quality, accessible and affordable child care services in high need areas of Riverside County.

Shortly after a Riverside County Early Care and Education Mapping study was prepared by Advancement Project/Healthy City in 2009, the Commission approved more than \$2.9 million to build new capacity in high need areas listed in the study. This includes more than 60 Riverside County zip codes with a 70 percent or higher need.

The Commission is offering grants to fund new capital development and/or renovation projects that increase the number of child care spaces among children, from birth through age 5, in high need communities. Funds are not intended to support current, on-going or general operations. As mandated by the 1998 California Children and Families Act (Proposition 10), funds cannot be used to supplant existing levels of funding for services.

Further details on this grant opportunity and necessary documents are available at [www.rccfc.org](http://www.rccfc.org) under “funding opportunities”. The deadline for applications is no later than 5 p.m. Monday, April 5, 2010.

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*First 5 Riverside, the Riverside County Children & Families Commission, is a division of the Riverside County Department of Public Social Services funded through Proposition 10 tobacco tax revenues. Established by the County Board of Supervisors in 1999, First 5 Riverside supports early childhood development through educational outreach, partnerships and funding for early education, health and child care services that benefit children, from prenatal to age 5, and their families. Such support helps children develop a strong foundation for success in school and throughout their lives. For more information about First 5 Riverside programs and other funded services, call 800-266-3880 or visit [www.rccfc.org](http://www.rccfc.org).*