



A public entity funded from Proposition 10 tobacco tax funds

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## Tackling the Needs of Children Through Food, Philanthropy, Family Services and More

(DEC. 17, 2009) RIVERSIDE, CA — From a course on fund development designed to increase the sustainability of programs serving children through age 5 to vision screenings and family nurse services, First 5 Riverside, the Riverside County Children & Families Commission, approved funding a wide-range of programs today.

“The needs in the community for young children come in various forms. Funding these various programs helps us tackle those needs through a comprehensive approach, as called for in our strategic plan,” said Harry Freedman, executive director of First 5 Riverside.

In total \$2.1 million was approved for the following programs:

- **Health Assessment Resource Center (HARC) \$25,000:** Funding to update a comprehensive needs assessment in eastern Riverside County. The 2010 survey proposal indicates a focus on health trends, needs and coverage gaps for the 0-5 population.
- **La Sierra University Center for Philanthropy \$100,000:** Funding to support capacity development of non-profit organizations in Riverside County serving children the needs of children 0-5 through a partnership with the University, the Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce, United Way and the Community Foundation. This would include a six-week academic course focused on fund development and offered through the La Sierra University School of Business.
- **Pilot Outreach, Retention, Enrollment and Utilization Services Program \$150,000:** Funding to increase enrollment and subsequent utilization of appropriate health services.
- **Health Public Education Outreach Project \$250,000:** Funding to increase efforts on educating the public about important health issues affecting children 0-5.
- **Child Care/Preschool Food Program \$350,000:** Funding to provide support food program in Blythe.
- **Nurse Family Partnership \$500,000:** Funding for an evidence-based nurse visiting program that improves the health, well-being and self sufficiency of Riverside County’s most vulnerable and high-risk population.
- **Vision Screening/Intervention \$750,000:** Funding to provide free comprehensive vision exams, corrective lenses and glasses to low-income, uninsured children throughout Riverside County who would not otherwise receive the eye care and eyewear.

As the programs move forward, further details will be provided at [www.rccfc.org](http://www.rccfc.org).

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*First 5 Riverside, the Riverside County Children & Families Commission, is a public entity funded by Proposition 10 tobacco tax revenues and established by the County Board of Supervisors in 1999. First 5 Riverside provides funding of early education, health and child care services that help children through age 5 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 951-248-0014 or Toll Free 800-266-3880 or visit [www.rccfc.org](http://www.rccfc.org).*