



**Agenda Item No. 4
February 6, 2013 Meeting**

DATE: January 28, 2013
TO: Children and Families Commission of Orange County
FROM: Christina Altmayer, Acting Deputy Executive Director 
SUBJECT: 2013 Statewide and Regional Partnership Activities

SUMMARY:

The Children and Families Commission of Orange County is a member of the First 5 Association of California, the Southern Regional Committee, and the Southern California Alliance for Learning and Results (SCALAR). Commission approval is requested to continue participation in the state and regional First 5/Children and Families associations and committees in 2013 at the funding levels to be identified in the Fiscal Year 2013-14 Budget.

First 5 Association of California

The First 5 Association is a membership organization of the 58 First 5/Children and Families Commissions in California. The Association members meet quarterly, three times in Sacramento, and once in the Los Angeles area. The First 5 Association supports the members by providing a collective voice for the county commissions on early health and education issues; facilitating information sharing and communication; providing resources and assistance that promote the effective implementation of Proposition 10 programs; and serving as a hub for statewide initiatives and collaboration. The Association structure includes an executive committee, and committees for program, evaluation, communication, and legislation. Participation in the First 5 Association is recommended for 2013. The Commission's Acting Deputy Executive Director will participate on the Legislative Committee and will be coordinating the Association's efforts related to the increasing Board of Equalization administrative fees. Commission staff will also participate on the Communication, Program and Evaluation Committees.

Southern Region Committee

The First 5/Children and Families Commissions are divided into six regions throughout the state. Orange County is one of eight counties in the Southern Region which spans from Imperial to Santa Barbara counties. The Southern Region convene regular meetings throughout the year to collaborate on common issues and programs, and to communicate the regional impact of Proposition 10 investments in similar programs such as children's dental health, developmental screenings, health access, and early literacy. The Southern Region counties are expected to host one meeting each year. The meetings are held bi-monthly at the First 5 LA office due to its central location and proximity to the train station. Approval to participate in the Southern Region Committee meetings and host one meeting is recommended. Commission staff will be actively involved in the regional evaluation and communication work.

[Commissioners](#)

[Acting Deputy Executive Director](#)

Southern California Alliance for Learning and Results

Since 2007 the Commission has annually authorized funding to support the Orange County's share of a regional program for managing, analyzing, and communicating results and impact of First 5 investments. The collaborative project, Southern California Alliance for Learning and Results (SCALAR), was developed for the First 5 Association Southern Region to share accountability and learning objectives through a coordinated regional approach. The First 5 Association serves as the fiscal agent and project manager. In October, the Commission approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to continue participation in SCALAR for 24 months, beginning on July 1, 2012 and committed \$25,000 in the FY 12/13 budget to support the program. Staff is requesting authority to renew this level of funding for FY 13/14.

STRATEGIC PLAN & FISCAL SUMMARY:

The program has been specifically reviewed in relation to the Strategic Plan, and is consistent with all outcome goals. Funding for statewide partnership activities and any regional meeting expenses are included in the proposed FY 13/14 Budget in the administration category, and \$25,000 for the SCALAR item is included in the Evaluation and Reporting budget category.

PRIOR COMMISSION ACTIONS:

- October 2012 – Renewal of funding contribution for SCALAR
- January 2012 – Approved the funding contributions for statewide and regional partnership activities

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

1. Find that partnerships with the First 5 Association of California, Southern Regional Committee, and the Southern California Alliance for Learning and Results are consistent with, or furthers the goals in the adopted strategic plan.
2. Authorize staff to include funding, estimated at \$25,000 in the proposed FY 13/14 Budget to support Southern California Alliance for Learning and Results and authorize the Acting Deputy Executive Director to approve any administrative updates to the existing Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) as needed. Funding is subject to approval of the FY 2013-14 Budget.
3. Approve the funding contribution as required to support regional meeting expenses and authorize payment by the Auditor-Controller upon approval by the Acting Deputy Executive Director.

Contact: Kelly Pijl