



Modoc County Children and Families Commission

Reviewed: 9-9-15; 7-13-16; 7-12-17; 7-11-18

**STRATEGIC PLAN
2015/2020**

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Modoc County Children and Families Commission Strategic Plan
2015-2020 Revised Strategic Plan

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FIRST 5 Modoc Strategic Plan FY 2015-2020

This revised Strategic Plan for FY 2015-2020 continues to support the Commission vision for assisting in developing a comprehensive system of early intervention services for children and families in Modoc County. FIRST 5 Modoc guides the investment of Prop 10 funds in Modoc County.

VISION

Modoc County is committed to ensuring the optimal health, development, and well being of children 0-5 and their families, while at the same time promoting respect and knowledge in all areas of diversity.

MISSION

The Modoc County Children and Families Commission seeks to enhance existing programs and assist in development of new programs, which nurture the physical, social-emotional, and educational growth of children to the age of five.

RESULTS AND GOALS TO BE ACHIEVED

The Commission seeks to integrate into a consumer-oriented and easily accessible system all the programs, services, and projects relating to early childhood development within Modoc County. The Commission's goal is to ensure that each and every child in Modoc County is in an environment that is conducive to optimal development, and to assure that the parent/families have the first option to be the primary care giver and teacher for their 0-5 year old child.

Grantees plans and proposals need to always focus on children ages 0-5 years and their families and contain goals that relate to one of the current Strategic Plans four focus areas listed in this Strategic Plan.

ACCOUNTABILITY AND PLANS FOR MEASURING OUTCOMES

Each grantee will complete a grantee performance evaluation chart at the time of submitting their proposals, which will define the desired outcomes, the measurable indicators of those outcomes, the implementation strategy for each outcome, and the time frame for completion of the outcomes. This tool will be used to track the performance and quality of service implementation of the grantee on a periodic basis. In addition, each grantee will be required to provide information as required by First 5 California and the Annual Report.

RESOURCE ALLOCATION REQUIREMENTS

The goal of this revised Strategic Plan is to identify FIRST 5 Modoc's current focus areas and suggested priorities to guide in the steps toward program development and funding. The Commission will seek to be innovative and creative in utilizing Proposition 10 funding. This will include ongoing evaluations as programs develop and function with the goals of maximizing the effectiveness of each program and seeking sustainability and possible leveraging with other programs and outside funding sources.

1. Current Four Focus Areas

The commission will solicit proposals for funding that will provide identifiable, expectant results that coincide with these four focus areas, and with a means of measuring the results. These Focus Areas were selected using Public and Commission input:

- 1. Improved Child Development**
- 2. Improved Family Functioning**
- 3. Improved Child Health**
- 4. Improved Systems of Care (Must be addressed and woven into all approved proposals)**

2. Over Arching Principles to be followed in Modoc County Children and Families Commission Funding and Collaboration

- A. Inclusive Governance insuring that the diverse perspectives of all parents and families are considered.
- B. Access for all qualified to services via effective and culturally appropriate communication
- C. Equity assuring that all have an equal voice.
- D. Result-based measurable accountability included in planning, implementation and evaluation of programs.
- E. Adherence to legislative and regulatory mandates in regard to ethnically diverse populations and children with disabilities and special needs.
- F. All children 0-5 years along with their parents/families will learn to be respectful and knowledgeable in all areas of diversity prior to school entrance (ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, socioeconomic class, linguistic differences, historically and under-represented groups, children with special disabilities, special needs, cultural competency)

3. System for Developing Proposals Addressing the Four Focus Areas

- A. Interested parties receive packets containing applications, policies, and Strategic Plan documents for developing and submitting proposals.
- B. Three community grants are available: Micro Grants-up to \$1,000; Mini Grants-up to \$10,000; Formal Grants-\$10,000 and above. Micro and Mini Grant requests are considered and awarded year round until budget amounts have been committed for the current Fiscal Year. Call the First 5 Modoc office for assistance, award amounts available and a timetable of dates for Formal Grants.
- C. Commission members without conflict of interest, grade proposals in a Public Meeting. Proposals accepted by the Commission are presented in a public hearing.

4. Plans for Measuring Outcomes

Each funded Grantee will be required to file timely Grantee Performance Reporting Forms to aid the Commission in the evaluation of the results of every indicator outlined in the Grantee Performance Evaluation Chart as submitted in the original proposal. The reporting interval of reports will be agreed upon between the Commission and each individual Grantee. At each reporting period each grantee will also be required to provide information as required by First 5 California and the Annual Report.

5. Commission Membership

- A. Patricia Cullins, Modoc County Board of Supervisors
- B. Edward P. Richert, M.D.
- C. De Funk, Modoc County Office of Education
- D. Alice Lybarger, Retired Director of Early Head Start
- E. Tanya Schulz, Director of Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health
- F. Melissa Channell, Strong Family Health Center

6. Equity and Inclusion

Each funded Grantee will be required to demonstrate the ways in which their project will include access to services for culturally and linguistically diverse communities, and for children with disabilities and/or other special needs.

7. Brief History of Modoc County Children and Families Commission

In November 1998, California voters passed Proposition 10, The California Children and Families First Act of 1998, a statewide ballot initiative. Effective January 1, 1999, Proposition 10 added a fifty-cent tax on cigarettes and other tobacco products for the purpose of promoting, supporting and improving the early development of children prenatal to five years of age.

Proposition 10 mandated the development of a State Commission and individual County Commissions to oversee allocations from the total tax collected. 20% of the funds collected are given to the State Commission and 80% are distributed to the County Commissions based on each County's number of live births. Based on approximately 80 live births per year (\$56,717) and a small county augmentation from FIRST 5 California, Modoc County receives approximately \$300,000.00 in revenues each fiscal year.

In order to allocate funds, a local County Commission was established. Ordinance 321 developed by the Modoc County Board of Supervisors established the Modoc County Prop 10 Commission. On January 5, 1999, the Board of Supervisors adopted Ordinance 321 commencing with section 8.40.010 officially creating the Modoc County Children and Families First Proposition 10 Commission. The Ordinance was subsequently amended on March 21, 2001 (Ordinance 321-A) which changes dropped the word "First" from the title, changed the sections on membership and composition, changed who could make recommendations to fill Board vacancies, and identified the Commission as a "public entity separate and distinct from the County of Modoc". The Ordinance once again was amended on Feb 25, 2003 to state Modoc County Children and Families Commission shall also be known as FIRST 5 Modoc and re-addressed sections on membership and composition.

As outlined in the Modoc Ordinance, the purpose of the local commission is to "facilitate the creation and implementation of an integrated, comprehensive and collaborative system of information and services to enhance optimal early childhood development. This system should function as a network that promotes accessibility to all information and services from any entry point into the system. It is further the intent of this ordinance to emphasize local decision making, to provide for greater local flexibility in designing delivery systems and to eliminate duplicate administrative systems".

Once the Commission was established, it developed an infrastructure that would support the improvement of services for expectant parents, children from the prenatal stage up to age five and their families in Modoc County. This entailed the adoption of a mission statement, bylaws and the Commission's first strategic plan. For more information on the history and evolution of the Strategic Plan please see Addendum #1 which can be found at our office and on our website at www.first5modoc.com.

During 2014, the Commission completed an extensive five year review of the Strategic Plan. Several Public Hearing meetings were held for public and commission input from 9/2014 to 1/2015. This culminated in minor updates and changes to the Strategic Plan and its focus areas.

The FIRST 5 Modoc Strategic Plan is reviewed annually during a public meeting of the Commission for input and changes as deemed necessary by the Commission. FIRST 5 Modoc will continue to perform an annual review of its Strategic Direction because our Strategic Plan is our road map for achieving the best outcomes for children and families. It is also a living document and will be revised and updated as our community needs change in relationship to our prenatal-5 year old children and their families. This five-year plan builds on the lessons learned over the past 15 years.

8. FIRST 5 Modoc's Four Focus Areas

This section presents First 5 Modoc's current goals, objectives and related indicators, organized according to focus area. During the review process the Commission envisioned many possible programs and services that could be enhanced or developed within the focus areas. This is not a comprehensive list of programs or services but more a general guide of possible ideas. Possible services include the increase of and accessibility to child care, training support for providers, expansion of prenatal services in our community, facilitation of transportation to out of County services, family support services, and dental and obesity prevention.

Focus Area 1: Improved Child Development

Goal: Children develop to their full potential.

Objectives:

1.1 Families have increased access to further education and services that enhance financial resources and family stability

Possible Indicators:

- ▶ Increase number of parents taking parenting classes focused on supporting child physical, cognitive, socio-emotional development
- ▶ Increase number of providers/parents/caregivers participating in training and education events
- ▶ Increased number of parents requesting and receiving information about early childhood development
- ▶ Improved transportation services
- ▶ Reduction of families in crisis

1.2 Access, quality and diversity of early care and education options will be increased through programs and services that recruit, train and support early care and education professionals

- ▶ Increase number of support and training programs for providers (educational, home visitor, PHN, MH Counseling)
- ▶ Increase number of providers offering high quality environment and instruction as indicated by ECERS, DRDP-R, DRDP Access assessments and/or currently approved standardized assessments
- ▶ Increased access and attendance to all early childhood education programs
- ▶ Improved transportation services
- ▶ Reduction of families in crisis

Focus Area 2: Improved Family Functioning

Goal: Empower healthy family functioning

Objectives:

2.1 Parents will receive support to increase their knowledge in child rearing, family relationships and community resources, which lay the foundation for a safe and healthy home

Possible Indicators:

- ▶ Increase number of parents/caregivers served adopting improved nutrition, health and physical activity practices
- ▶ Increase number of high-risk families referred for services
- ▶ Increase number of prevention programs and opportunities to educate parents involved in a culturally and linguistically appropriate way
- ▶ Increase number of high-risk families served through home visiting
- ▶ Increase number of parents who are engaged in school readiness
- ▶ Decrease early childhood exposure to media/technology
- ▶ Improved transportation services
- ▶ Reduction of families in crisis

Focus Area 3: Improved Child Health

Goal: Improved health and wellness

Objectives:

3.1 Identify parents and children who have health needs

Possible Indicators:

- ▶ Increase number of parents and children involved in primary prevention programs (ex. CHDP, nutrition activity and dental screenings)
- ▶ Increase number of families who have a medical home
- ▶ Increase number of pediatric dental providers/services within the county
- ▶ Increased immunization rates
- ▶ Increased educational awareness on obesity
- ▶ Improved transportation services
- ▶ Reduction of families in crisis

3.2 Increase health access to prevention and primary health care services for pregnant women and children birth through age 5

- ▶ Increase number of women entering prenatal care in first trimester
- ▶ Increase number of women receiving continuous prenatal care
- ▶ Increase number of children covered by health insurance
- ▶ Improved transportation services
- ▶ Increase awareness and access to comprehensive oral health services
- ▶ Increase awareness and enhanced nutrition education
- ▶ Reduction of families in crisis

Focus Area 4: Improved Systems of Care

Goal: Systems of care that supports a seamless infrastructure

All proposals must demonstrate collaboration and networking while seeking to integrate services into a “consumer-oriented and easily accessible system”. To achieve improvements in one or more of the other focus areas requires deliberate and collaborative work in this focus area.

Listed below are objectives identified during the Strategic Planning session. This list was not intended to be an inclusive list of possibilities but rather examples of possibilities.

Objectives:

4.1 Funded programs show evidence of increased collaboration and ongoing communication

4.2 Funded programs demonstrate commitment to evaluation and sustainability

9. Past Projects and Programs Fiscal Year 2016-17

Formal Grants

Public Health “Healthy Beginnings” \$49,201

Focus Area: Improved Family Functioning

Continue to provide a home visitation program, focused on strengthening and improving positive parent-infant interactions, healthy infant development and parental competencies. 43 children and 36 parents were served.

Modoc County Office of Education (MCOE) “School Readiness in State Preschool” \$77,528

Focus Area: Improved Child Development

Continue to provide a School Readiness program in Modoc County preschools. Research confirms children who attend a high-quality education program are better prepared for kindergarten. “The RAND research reports preschool offers one of the highest returns on any public investment. Children have stronger language skills, less likely to repeat a grade or drop out of school.” Ten children and ten parents were served.

TEACH, Inc. “Tulelake/Newell FRC” \$21,271

Focus Area: Improved Family Functioning \$14,890 & Improved Health \$6,381

Providing Family Resource Center Services and activities to the families of Siskiyou and Modoc County. This program collaborates services with First 5 Siskiyou. 138 children and 93 parents were served.

Surprise Valley Joint Unified School District (SVJUSD) “Strong Start” \$22,779

Focus Area: Improved Child Development

Increase opportunity and access to quality early childhood education at the Surprise Valley Child Development Center through a share of cost/no cost fee to attend for those who do not qualify for subsidized child care. Nine children and 10 parents were served.

Mini Grants

Public Health “Increase Access to Preventative Oral Health” \$9,700

Focus Area: Improved Child Health

Provide increased access to preventative oral health services for children 0-5. Public Health collaborated with preschools, Early Head Start, Head Start, and other community agencies in order to coordinate dental screenings and parent presentations. 137 children were served.

MCOE “Dollywood Imagination Library” \$1,646.95

Focus Area: Improved Family Functioning

Provide books by partnering with the Dollywood Foundation Imagination Library; twelve (12) age appropriate books a year are mailed to the participating families up to the age of 5 to inspire a love of reading. 151 children served.

Micro Grants

NONE for the Fiscal Year of 2016-17