



# FIRST 5

M O D O C

*Investing in our children's future.*



## STRATEGIC PLAN FY 2020-2025

**Modoc County Children and Families Commission**

*Adopted September 11, 2019; Revised July 8, 2020; Reviewed July 14, 2021; July 13, 2022; July 19, 2023*

**Modoc County Children and Families Commission**

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# STRATEGIC PLAN FY 2020-2025



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# Introduction

The Strategic Plan for FY 2020 - 2025 supports First 5 Modoc's 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 Proposition 10 funds in Modoc County.

## VISION

Modoc County is committed to ensuring the optimal health, development, and well being of children zero through five 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, zero through 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 caregiver and teacher for their zero through five year old child.

Grantees plans and proposals need to always focus on children ages 0-5 years and their families and contain goals relating 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 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.



# Priority Areas

## 1. Current Four Priority Areas

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



**Improved Child Health**

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**Improved Child Development**

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**Improved Family Functioning**

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**Improved Systems of Care**

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## 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 Priority Areas

- A. Interested parties receive packets containing applications, policies, and Strategic Plan documents for developing and submitting proposals.
- B. Three community grants are available: Mini Grants-up to \$10,000; Formal Grants-\$10,000 and/or 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 - Revised July 2023

- Elizabeth Cavasso - Modoc County Board of Supervisors
- Edward P. Richert, M.D. - Modoc County Public Health Officer
- Alice Lybarger - Retired Director of Early Head Start
- Tanya Schulz - Modoc County Public Health Branch Director
- Carole McCulley - Community Representative at Large

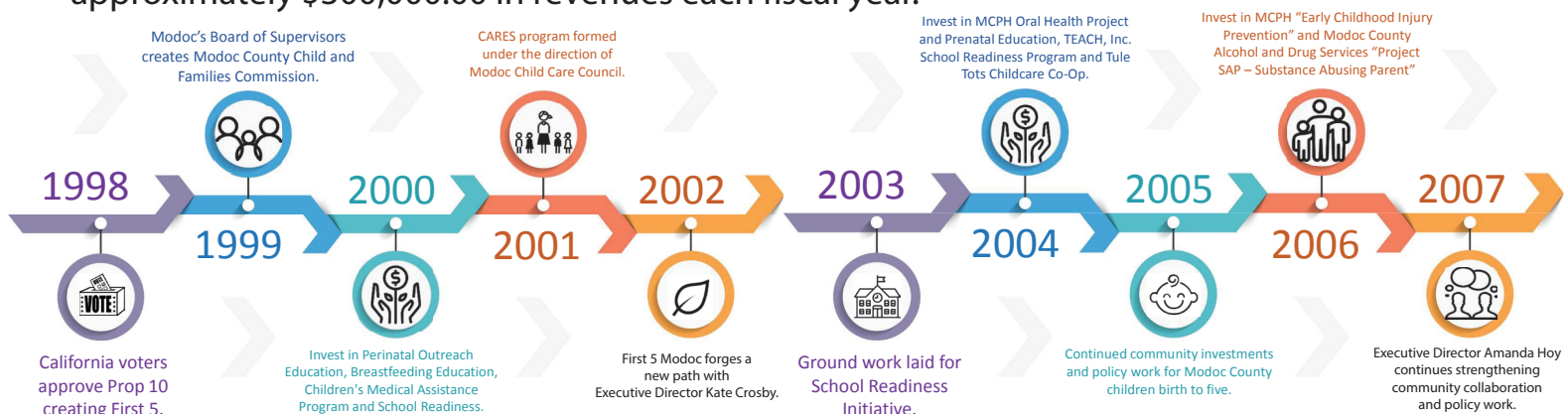
#### 6. Equity and Inclusion

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.

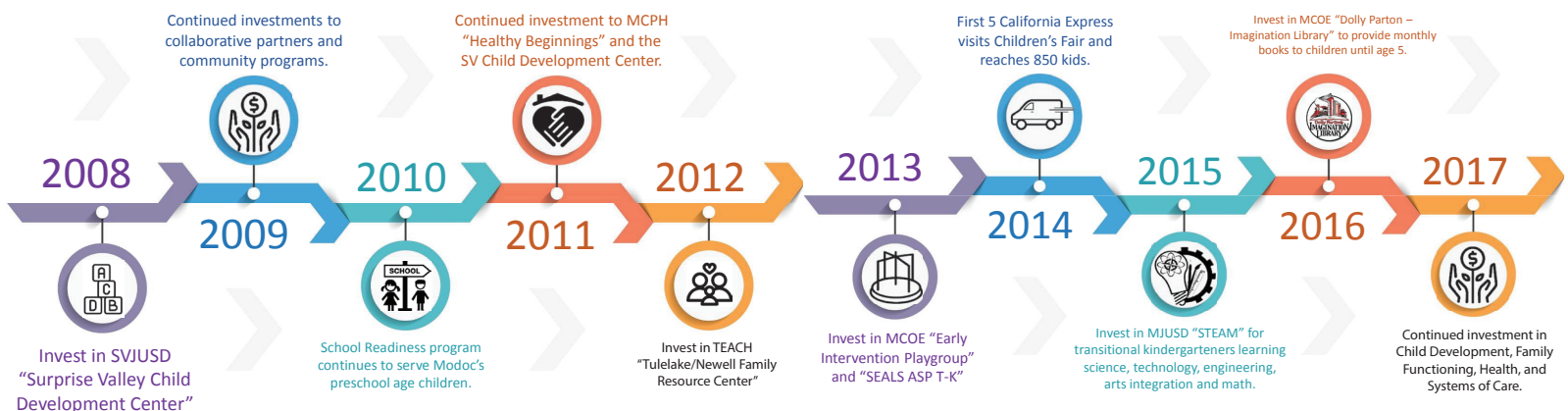
As outlined in the Modoc Ordinance, the purpose of the local commission is to “facilitate the creation and implementation of an integrated, comprehensive and collaborative system of information and services to enhance optimal early childhood development. This system should function as a network that 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 in order to 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.

In 2015 and 2019, the Commission completed an extensive five year review of the Strategic Plan. The reviews culminated in minor updates and changes to the Strategic Plan and its focus areas.

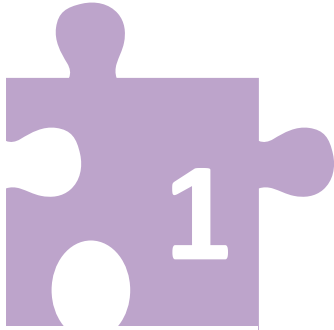
The FIRST 5 Modoc Strategic Plan is continually reviewed annually during a public meeting of the Commission for input and changes as deemed necessary by the Commission. FIRST 5 Modoc will continue to perform an annual review of its Strategic Direction as the Strategic Plan is the Commission’s road map for achieving the best possible outcomes for children and families. The Strategic Plan is considered a living document and shall be revised and updated as community needs change in relationship to the communities prenatal through five year old children and their families. This five-year plan builds on the lessons learned over the past 20 years.

For additional information on the history and evolution of the First 5 Modoc Strategic Plan please see Addendum #1. A copy is available upon request from First 5 Modoc or may be viewed online at [www.first5modoc.com](http://www.first5modoc.com).



## 8. First 5 Modoc's Four Priority Areas

This section presents First 5 Modoc's current goals, objectives and related indicators, organized according to priority area. During the review process the Commission envisioned many possible programs and services that could be enhanced or developed within the outlined priority areas below. 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.

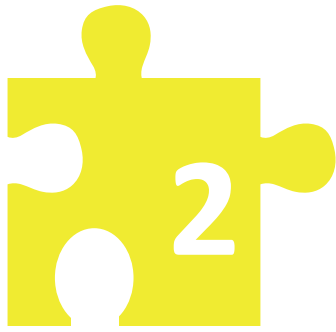


## Priority Area 1 - Improved Child Health

**GOAL:** Promote optimal health, physical and mental, for all children and families prenatal through age 5.

AREA 1 OBJECTIVES	Possible Indicators of Success
<p><b>1.1</b> Increase access to physical and mental health care for children and families, prenatal through five.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased pediatric care, dental and/or mental health workforce county-wide</li> <li>• Increased number of families who have a medical or dental home</li> <li>• Increased educational awareness of nutrition and childhood obesity</li> <li>• Increased number of participating families and children involved in primary prevention programs (e.g. CHDP, nutrition activities, dental screenings)</li> <li>• Increased number of pregnant mothers receiving care, (e.g. first trimester, postpartum, lactation consultations)</li> <li>• Curtailed number of families in crisis</li> </ul>
<p><b>1.2</b> Children receive early prevention and intervention for developmental delays, traumatic experiences, and overall mental and physical health wellness.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased awareness of comprehensive mental and physical health care</li> <li>• Increased provider participation in trauma informed care practices and screenings (e.g. ACEs – Adverse Childhood Experiences)</li> <li>• Improved child wellness measured by pre and post assessments (e.g. ASQ – Ages &amp; Stages Questionnaires, ESI – Early Screening Inventory)</li> <li>• Increased awareness of physical and mental health importance</li> <li>• Increased educational awareness of nutrition and childhood obesity</li> <li>• Increased awareness of oral health services</li> </ul>

**Previously Funded Program Examples\*** - Modoc County Public Health (MCPH) "Healthy Beginnings Home Visiting Program", MCPH "Breastfeeding Support for Working Moms", Modoc County Drug and Alcohol "Project SAP – Substance Abusing Parents", MCPH "Modoc County Early Childhood Injury Prevention Program", Modoc County Office of Education "Early Mental Health SELPA"



## Priority Area 2 - Improved Child Development

**GOAL:** Ensure all children birth through 5 have high-quality, nurturing environments for optimal development.

FOCUS AREA 2 OBJECTIVES	Possible Indicators of Success
<p><b>2.1</b> Improve and increase early learning environments for children zero through five by -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increasing Accessibility</li> <li>• Increasing Affordability and</li> <li>• Improving Quality</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased access and attendance of early learning environments (e.g. pre-schools, playgroups)</li> <li>• Increased number of providers offering assessed, high-quality environments (e.g. DRDP (Desired Results Development Profiles), ECERS (Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale), CLASS)</li> <li>• Increased provider participation in QCNS (Quality Counts North State) /QRIS (Quality Rating &amp; Improvement Systems)</li> </ul>
<p><b>2.2</b> Increase educational supports for families and caregivers to increase awareness of physical, cognitive and socioemotional development.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased number of parents attending parenting classes</li> <li>• Increased number of parents/families/caregivers/providers participating in training and education opportunities</li> <li>• Increased collaborative supports providing information about child development</li> <li>• Increased knowledge of digital age parenting (e.g. monitored device use, decreased screen time, reduction of distracted parenting, educational tech use)</li> <li>• Increased family engagement opportunities</li> </ul>

**Previously Funded Program Examples\*** - Modoc County Office of Education (MCOE) "School Readiness in State Preschool", TEACH, Inc. "Surprise Valley Child Development Center – Strong Start", SVJUSD "Surprise Valley Child Development Center – Increased Access", Alturas Head Start "Raising a Reader", MCOE "Dollywood Imagination Library"

\* **NOTE:** ALL Priority Area Examples are shown to give reference to PREVIOUSLY funded programs. Examples do not specifically meet FY 2020-2025 Strategic Plan Priority Areas.





## Priority Area 3 - Improved Family Functioning

**GOAL:** Enable all families to have the knowledge, skills, and resources to support their children’s optimal development.

AREA 3 OBJECTIVES	Possible Indicators of Success
<p><b>3.1</b> Support programs that provide knowledge, skills and resources to families that foster healthy development for children age zero through five.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased parent/family participation in family engagement opportunities/workshops</li> <li>• Increased number of parents attending parenting classes</li> <li>• Increased number of programs and opportunities to educate parents in a culturally and/or linguistically appropriate way</li> <li>• Increased number of high-risk families referred to and/or receiving intervention and prevention services (e.g. Home Visiting)</li> <li>• Increased adoption of improved nutrition, health and physical activity practices</li> <li>• Increased collaborative supports providing information about child development</li> <li>• Increased knowledge of digital age parenting (e.g. monitored device use, decreased screen time, reduction of distracted parenting, educational tech use)</li> <li>• Increased family engagement opportunities</li> <li>• Increased parent/family understanding of trauma (e.g. ACEs - Adverse Childhood Experiences)</li> <li>• Increased implementation of “Peer to Peer” supports</li> </ul>

**Previously Funded Program Examples\*** - TEACH, Inc. “Tulelake/Newell Family Resource Center,” Modoc County Office of Education “South Fork Playgroups,” TEACH, Inc. “Preschool Parenting”



## Priority Area 4 - Improved Systems of Care

**GOAL:** Collaboratively create systems of care that support a seamless infrastructure for children and families prenatal through age 5.

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**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 priority areas requires deliberate and collaborative work in this priority 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.**

### AREA 4 OBJECTIVES

- 4.1** Funded programs show evidence of increased collaboration and ongoing communication.
- 4.2** Funded programs demonstrate commitment to evaluation and sustainability.

### 9. First 5 Modoc’s Projects and Programs Funded in FY 2018-19

First 5 Modoc awarded four formal grant proposals during their June 2019 Commission meeting for the FY 2019-2020:

- Modoc County Office of Education SELPA “Early Mental Health Services” \$41,173
- TEACH, Inc. “Budding Tree Preschool – School Readiness Program” \$95,230
- TEACH, Inc. “Tulelake/Newell Family Resource Center” \$21,172
- Modoc County Public Health “Healthy Beginnings HV Program” \$28,350
- TEACH, Inc. “S.V. Child Development Center – Strong Start for Children & Families” \$44,749

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For further information on funding opportunities, local programs and community resources contact First 5 Modoc directly by calling 530-233-7122 or email [first5modoc@gmail.com](mailto:first5modoc@gmail.com).

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**Modoc County Children and Families Commission**  
Revised 9/11/2019

**ADDENDUM #1 to the STRATEGIC PLAN  
2020/2025**

Modoc County Children and Families Commission  
802 North East St. Room 103  
Alturas, CA 96101  
Phone (530) 233-7122

This Addendum to the 2020-2025 Strategic Plan, approved on September 11, 2019, was developed in an effort to retain the history and evolution of the First 5 Modoc Strategic Plan.

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. Since its establishment the Strategic Plan has evolved and changed as our community needs change in relation to our prenatal-5 year old children and their families.

The original three focus areas of the first strategic plan were as follows:

1. Child Health and Wellness
2. Early Child Development
3. Education and Support for Families

During 2001, the Commission was presented information about current challenges/critical lacks/gaps/opportunities in Modoc County through a concept paper prepared by the Executive Director. This concept paper was based on current available data and included data and input from individuals, voluntary community based organizations, and agencies. This culminated in a workgroup which produced ideas for consideration in making revisions to the Commission's then current strategic plan. These ideas were subsequently refined and then grouped together under the Commission's then current three focus/component areas. Finally, they were presented to the public to prioritize for inclusion in a revised Strategic Plan.

In December 2004 a more extensive review of the Strategic Plan was completed and a consultant was hired to help the Commission review and renew its vision, focuses and priorities as appropriate. Several Public Hearing meetings were held for the public and the commission for input from 1/2005 until 9/2005. The Strategic Planning session resulted in the following five focus areas:

1. Improved Health and Wellness Options
2. Improved Behavioral Health Services
3. Improved Training Opportunities
4. Improved Early Childhood Educational Opportunities
5. Improved Community Well Being

In November 2008 the next comprehensive five year review took place. The vision, focuses and priorities were reviewed with emphasis made on alignment with the four focus areas of First 5 California. This emphasis was made in an effort to be more consistent and seamless in reporting requirements at both a State and local level. Several Public Hearing meetings were held for the public and the commission for input from 12/2008 until 3/2009 the culmination of which resulted in significant changes to the Strategic Plan. The whole notion of this review was to include concrete indicators to support the identified objectives. The Strategic Planning sessions resulted in the following four focus areas:

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)

In July 2014 a decision was made to perform the next comprehensive five year review. Several Public Hearing meetings were held for the public and the commission for input from 9/2014 to 1/2015. This culminated in minor updates and changes to the Strategic Plan and its focus areas.

The Strategic Plan 2020-2025 comprehensive review began 1/2019; the review was directed during Public Hearing meetings held for the public, stakeholders and the Commission. Input was collected through 9/2019. Minor updates, changes and updated focus areas were identified to align with First 5 California and local community needs. The following four focus areas were identified:

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

Please refer to the current Strategic Plan 2020-2025 for additional information, goals, objectives, and indicators of the First 5 Modoc Commission.