



Preschool for All: Step by Step

A Planning Guide And Toolkit

DRAFT

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Susan Muenchow
Project Director
Senior Research Scientist



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Local First 5 Champions of Preschool-for-All

In addition to the above statewide efforts, several local First 5 commissions have emerged as major leaders in championing universal access to preschool:

- In 2002, *First 5 LA* committed \$100 million in local Proposition 10 funds to provide seed money for phasing in universal preschool services in Los Angeles County, and in October 2003 the commission voted to spend \$500 million over the next five years on the system that eventually will seek to enroll more than 150,000 4-year-olds. According to Dr. Karen Hill-Scott, who has directed the planning process, the draft plan is expected in mid-November, and the first model sites will be launched in September 2004.
- In February 2003, *First 5 San Mateo* completed a Universal Preschool Feasibility Study funded by the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, and a facilitated design group has spearheaded a strategic plan endorsed by key stakeholders. The First 5 commission has committed \$1 million per year in seed money for the initiative, and plans are underway to launch a Preschool for All San Mateo County program in fall 2005.
- In April 2003, *First 5 Alpine*, located in the county with the smallest population in California, helped open with Early Learning Opportunity Grant funds the first classroom of what is intended to be a universal preschool system.

See Table 1-3 for more information on each of the above initiatives. For additional details on the *First 5 LA* Draft Strategic Plan and the San Mateo Feasibility Study, consult the local commission websites (www.prop10.org for *First 5 LA* and www.co.sanmateo.ca.us/smc/departments/first5).

Local First 5 Commission Preschool-Focused Activities

While the First 5 counties and school districts mentioned above have made the most explicit commitments to preschool-for-all, a survey conducted by American Institutes for Research indicates that virtually all of the local First 5 commissions are investing in activities essential to the development of a preschool system. These activities include significant efforts to expand preschool or other structured early learning programs for preschool age children, to improve the qualifications of the early childhood education workforce, to upgrade the quality of other aspects of existing programs, to develop new facilities, to conduct outreach to promote enrollment in preschool, to extend the length of part-day preschool programs to make them more accessible to children of working parents, and to expand services to children above the current state income eligibility limits for state preschool.

For example, as indicated in Table 1-2:

- ▶ **Half of the survey respondents (or 23 of the 45 local First 5 Commissions responding) consider expansion of preschool and/or early care and education to be a primary focus of their commission, and another 12 consider it at least a secondary priority. In addition to the above-described initiatives in First 5 LA, First 5 San Mateo, and First 5 Alpine, several**

other local commissions have set very specific goals to promote preschool expansion. For example:

- **Colusa County Children and Families Commission** has set a goal to increase preschool participation by 15% per year to 64% by 2006;
- **Merced County Children and Families Commission** initially set a goal to provide preschool to 75% of all 4-year-old children in all 10 under-performing schools in Merced City School District (MCSD) within four years. As a result of using state preschool expansion, Title 1, Head Start, First 5 School Readiness, and other new grant funds, they expect 90% of children entering kindergarten in the Merced City School District in 2004 to have had some level of preschool experience in State Preschool, Head Start, or programs contracted with private providers;
- **Children and Families Commission of Orange County** reports that, as a result of the decision to hire school readiness coordinators in all 26 school districts a year in advance of the implementation of the School Readiness Initiative, all districts eligible for School Readiness funds applied for the State Preschool expansion funds;
- **First 5 Riverside** has set a goal to expand preschool participation by 20% per year;
- **First Five Commission of San Francisco**, in conjunction with the San Francisco Childcare Planning and Advisory Council, the San Francisco Unified School District, the San Francisco Department of Children, Youth, and Their Families, and community stakeholders, will submit to the Board of Supervisors by September 2004 a proposal for a universal preschool program for San Francisco. This follows the Board's approval of a measure in October 2003 to commit \$20 million per year to preschool by Fiscal Year 2009-10.
- **First 5 Santa Clara** is considering a process to plan Quality Early Learning Opportunities for All, serving children birth to 5;
- **Sonoma Children and Families Commission** has pledged to increase the percentage of children receiving some type of structured early care and education from 30 to 60% in seven contiguous school neighborhoods participating in its school readiness initiative;
- **First 5 Tulare** has set a goal to make voluntary Pre-kindergarten available for all 4-year-old children at 16 schools eligible for school readiness funds within four years, and has committed \$100,000 per site to expand or upgrade programs and to leverage operating dollars; and
- **First 5 Ventura** has pledged to make preschool services available to increase the percentage of children entering kindergarten with preschool experience from half to more than 70 percent.

► **Twenty-seven local First 5 Commissions consider development of the preschool/early care and education workforce to be a primary focus of their commission, and 10 more indicate that it is at least a secondary priority. Notable examples include:**

- Establishing a Child Development Corps that supports child care providers through professional development opportunities and a stipend program (e.g., **First 5 Alameda** and **First 5 Sierra**), establishing a mobile outreach program (**First 5 Calaveras**), and



investing in a countywide teacher education component that will offer stipends, mentoring, recognition and membership in a professional organization to providers that achieve benchmark status on the Child Development Permit matrix (**First 5 Contra Costa**).

- Providing local match to state-supported CARES stipends. For example, **Napa Children and Families Commission** has committed \$1.5 million (\$500,000 per year) to CARES stipends to encourage professional development; **First 5 Nevada's** Educator Support Program provides stipends and benefits reaching 20 percent of child care providers; **First 5 Santa Clara** funds the Institute for Early Childhood Professional Development to focus on early care and education (ECE) provider training and workforce development through administration of the CARES program.
- **Merced County Children and Families Commission** School Readiness funds will be used to help improve the salaries of preschool teachers who have BA degrees. In addition, an Early Reading First grant awarded to the Merced City School District will provide literacy coaches, standards-based curriculum, and stipends for current staff to seek BA's and MA's.

► **Thirty-five First 5 Commissions indicate that upgrading existing preschool and other early care and education programs is a major priority, making it the most frequently mentioned preschool/ECE-focused strategy. Notable local commission approaches include:**

- Countywide accreditation programs, as spearheaded by **Children and Families Commission of Santa Barbara and Children and Families Commission of El Dorado**;
- Making assessment under the Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale (ECERS) or the Family Day Care Rating Scale (FDCRS) a condition for receipt of mini-grants or receipt of CARES stipends, as required by **First 5 Fresno First 5** and **Sonoma Children and Families Commission (CHECK)**; and.
- Enhancing curriculum, as **First 5 San Diego** does, through its School Readiness initiative to enhance the High/Scope curriculum and provide more formal early literacy programs.

► **Seventeen of the responding First 5 commissions place a primary focus on the development of new early care and education facilities, indicating that a shortage of facilities is a major barrier to the expansion of preschool. Examples of innovative local efforts include:**

- Working with plans for new elementary schools to make sure there is space set aside for preschool, as **First 5 Fresno** is doing with 10 new schools in Fresno Unified School District;
- Joining with school districts to support the inclusion of funds for preschool facilities in school district bond issues, as in **First 5 LA** and **First 5 Santa Clara**;
- Using local First 5 commission funds to purchase facilities, as in **First 5 San Benito**, **First 5 Ventura**, and **First 5 Riverside**, where the latter has funded 5 model facilities and, in partnership with a school district, established a Preschool Academy (Rob Reiner Children and Families Development Center);



- Leveraging the Community Based English Tutoring (CBET) program to obtain funds for portable classrooms that can also be used to house preschool programs for the children of parents enrolled, as in **Children and Families Commission of Orange First 5** and **First 5 Contra Costa**; and
- Working in partnership with Tribal organizations, as **First 5 Alpine** did to start the first preschool program on tribal land in the county, or with Head Start, with whom many local commissions have partnered.

► **Twenty-one responding First 5 commissions place a major focus on outreach to promote enrollment in existing preschool and other structured early learning programs.** These commissions indicate that one of the barriers to Preschool for All is limited awareness of existing programs, particularly in the Latino community.

- The **Contra Costa, Monterey, and San Diego** commissions all use the Promotores model to reach out to parents to inform them of the preschool and other ECE services available, including programs to serve Spanish-speaking families and children with special needs. In San Diego, the program provides mothers with training and stipends to do outreach in their own neighborhoods;
- Home visitation to identify children who have not had access to early education is another frequent approach; the **First 5 Kern** home visitation program includes a 10-week curriculum designed in part to promote children’s developmental progress as profiled in Desired Results; and
- Noting that preschool and Head Start have traditionally been underutilized by the Latino families in the neighborhoods surrounding the schools that offer these programs, **Sonoma Children and Families Commission’s** School Readiness program hires family advocates/mentors to visit families with young children and publicize the availability of these programs.

► **Ten responding First 5 commissions indicate that linking part-day preschool programs to extended day/year options is a major focus,** and that, without this effort, major portions of children of working parents will be unable to participate. Innovative local strategies include:

- Upgrading existing full-day ECE programs to meet desired new preschool standards, as in the **FIRST 5 LA** and **First 5 San Mateo** Preschool for All plans;
- Working with family child care providers to provide wraparound care for part-day, school-based preschool programs, as in **Merced’s** preschool program,
- Working on a waiver with CDE/CDD to allow pooling of unallocated State Preschool slots to private early care and education providers who can meet Title 5 standards, as in **El Dorado**, and
- Using local commission funds to increase the state preschool day to full day, as in **Santa Barbara** and **Fresno**, or Head Start funds to expand the state preschool day, as in **Mendocino** and **Placer**.



► **Ten responding First 5 commissions make expanding the eligibility for publicly-funded preschool a primary priority**, indicating that the current income ceilings for state preschool and subsidized child care (and even lower thresholds for Head Start) are a major problem for families who earn too much to qualify but still cannot afford the full cost. Innovative local strategies include:

- Using local commission funds, as in **Amador, Orange, and San Diego**, to support scholarship funds for children who do not qualify for publicly supported programs or who attend schools that are not low-performing and hence do not qualify for First 5 School Readiness funds.
- Encouraging school districts to contribute Title I funds to preschool is another strategy, because there are no income eligibility limits for Title I so long as the school as a whole meets the Title I guidelines. In **Orange County, Santa Ana School District's** school readiness coordinator used test scores to help convince that district to designate \$1.5 million in Title I funds to preschool; **Elk Grove School District in Sacramento** contributes 1/6 of its Title I funds to preschool, and **Merced School District in Merced** also devotes some Title I funds to preschool.

Table 1-3: Local First 5 Commission Preschool-Focused Activities

County	Activity Summary	Preschool/ ECE Expansion	Develop Workforce	Upgrade Existing Programs	Develop Facilities	Outreach To Promote Enrollment	Extend Day/ Year	Expand Income Eligibility
Alameda	Focus is on improving the quality of early child experiences for all children, including those at home or in license-exempt care. The Child Development Corps supports child care providers through professional development opportunities and a stipend program. The Child Care Fund provides loans, grants and technical assistance for facility improvements and development and business practice training. School Readiness is embedded in all Commission initiatives specifically including: Pre-K Summer camp for children with no formal care experience, community grants to agencies providing school readiness and mental health services, and collaborative efforts with pediatric practices, law enforcement and elementary schools		P	P	P	S		
<i>New Haven Unified School District</i> In Alameda County	Alameda County First 5 provides local commission funds to support playground renovation for the New Haven USD Preschool - for-All initiative . Every elementary school plus one high school and one adult education school now offer preschool. Operating costs funded by State Preschool, Head Start, General Child Care, and full fees from middle and upper income families. The program was full with a waiting list after the first year. The program will continue to expand once the waiting list provides the necessary momentum. The school district contracts with Kidango , a private non-profit, to provide the preschool program. Most sites offer a part-day program, with three full-day programs. Services are offered free to the approximately 62% of families currently income eligible for state preschool; the other families pay a fee. Most lead teachers have a BA. Most facilities score at least 5 on ECERS scale; and some are as high as 6.8 out of 7. Most centers are accredited or in the process of applying for NAEYC accreditation. In addition, the program uses Desired Results to track the progress of children, and the Head Start Prism system to ensure program quality. Funding for facilities went to New Haven from Repair and Renovation Grants from the Department of Education, and Kidango received Community Development Block Grant funding from the Cities of Hayward, Union City and Alameda County First Five for playgrounds. The program serves 550 of the 1900 3-4 year-old children in the school district .	P		P	P	P	P	P
Alpine	The first preschool classroom opened in April 2003 , and already there are 20 children on a waiting list. Collaboration was the key; partners include Head Start and the Tribal Council . Facilities are a real issue; for this program the only available classroom is on tribal land; the plan is to use Tribal TANF funds to help sustain the program. To create this program, Head Start hours were extended, and those children are the first priority. As space and funds permit, the goal is to serve all children from 30 months to five years of age.	P			P		P	
Amador	SR Initiative will fund a 5-week summer program that will be offered to 20 children who have never attended formal preschool. In addition, SR Initiative will fund a mobile outreach program to offer support, materials, mentoring, and training on school readiness aligned with state standards to family- and center-based providers. Training will include identification of special needs. Scholarships will be provided to children who do not qualify or are on waiting lists for preschool programs. Providers serving these children must participate in CARES. The Mothers' Club received funding to support activities and to a start a parent co-op. The Baby Welcome Wagon Kit program will be expanded to serve toddlers.		P	P		P		P
Butte	The overall goal of the SR Initiative is to enhance and connect with the existing supply . There has been a concerted effort not to over-expand the supply. There is one state preschool on-site at each school . Transportation and connecting the services to people who need them are issues. Also have Project ReWARD stipends for workforce training.	S	P	S	S	S		

County	Activity Summary	Preschool/ ECE Expansion	Develop Workforce	Upgrade Existing Programs	Develop Facilities	Outreach To Promote Enrollment	Extend Day/ Year	Expand Income Eligibility
Calaveras	Expansion of one Head Start/State Preschool and another preschool will double preschool capacity in the Jenny Lind School area. Some 82% of ECE providers already have college degrees and technical school background. SR Initiative will increase support (mentoring and networking) and educational opportunities for ECE providers through a mobile outreach program. A two-week summer program will ease transition from preschool or home to kindergarten. A new coordination project will seek to establish ongoing communication and collaboration between ECE and K teachers.	P	P		P			
Colusa	The goal is to increase preschool participation by 15% per year to 64% of all children by 2006 . Children birth through 5 from low-income families will be given priority, and services will be provided free to these children. Currently, across the county and in SR Initiative targeted areas, some 33% of children participate in formal early learning programs. The quality of existing programs is good, but supply is severely constrained by lack of facilities and qualified teachers. Colusa COE will oversee the initiative, and both community-based centers and family day care homes that meet standards (ECERS, Head Start or Title V) can participate.	P	P	P	S	P	S	S
Contra Costa	Through SR Initiative specifically, all 33 schools eligible for school readiness funds will have an outreach worker to identify and make connections with children not already linked with schools through siblings or existing preschool-school relationships. Every school will form a transition team (including outreach, parents, teachers, ECE providers) to implement school transition activities, screening procedures, and support for parents with children not already in a structured ECE setting, targeted to children beginning 2 years before kindergarten entry. The Commission is using the Welcome Home Baby Home Visiting and Promotores models to reach out to parents and exempt providers. Not preschool for all, but preschool services for all through outreach, parent education, home learning materials, and school-based transition experiences. Building on CBET, ESL and other programs, the Commission is supporting a parent cooperative approach to expanding preschool services in school settings (Children are in preschool 4 days a week, while parents are in ESL classes or assist the classroom; both models include parent education). Commission has recently committed an additional \$1.5 million in local funds to an Early Childhood Education strategy that will (1) focus on quality enhancement focusing both on the individual provider and center/family childcare home and (2) create a core program in which the child care delivery system is prepared to be responsive to the needs of families with children with special needs . The countywide teacher education component will offer stipends, mentoring, recognition, and membership in a professional organization to providers that achieve benchmark levels on the Child Development Permit Matrix. Family child care homes and centers, primarily in low performing school attendance areas and at varying levels of quality at onset of program participation (rated through the ECERS), will improve quality through a comprehensive support program that provides access to teacher and director training, coaching, financial resources, support groups. Families with children with special needs will be better served by increasing the capacity of early child care providers to serve them; improving coordination and collaboration among the early childhood education field, K-12 education, and disability service providers; and helping parents navigate the system. Commission also funds family literacy grants to community providers to expand family literacy programs and give parents and caregivers the necessary support and resources to be their children's first teacher.	S	P	P	S	P	S	
El Dorado	Preschool for All has been identified as an emerging issue , but not yet formally adopted by the Commission. Assuring that all subsidized spaces are utilized is a top priority. Pending CDE approval, 48 unallocated state preschool spaces will be subcontracted to private providers who meet Title 5 standards . Primary teachers and child care providers together are developing countywide Pre-K standards for child care and an assessment to be used with children entering K. The Commission funded a countywide accreditation program. Scholarships are provided for parent participation preschools. SR initiative staff is creating a video on transition to kindergarten. Specialists consult to private preschools to identify need for and referrals to special services.	S	P	P	S	S	S	S

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Fresno	Early care and education is one of 6 priorities in strategic plan. Commission funded several full-day preschools on school sites to serve an additional 250 children. But space is a problem. Working with plans for 10 new elementary schools in Fresno Unified to make sure they have space for preschool. Also, in conjunction with Packard ABCD Initiative , funding new infant/toddler program associated with two new preschools. Accreditation program will begin next year if state program to promote accreditation does not continue. In order to qualify for mini-grants, providers must undergo ECERS or FDCRS assessment. Clovis Unified School District has set goal of universal preschool , but the district currently has no schools eligible for SR funds.	P	S	P	P	P	S	P
Kern	Main focus is home visitation to identify children who have not had access to early education. Implementing in home visitation program a 10-week curriculum that correlates with Desired Results. Also starting "summer bridge", playgroups, Mommy and Me programs to supplement ECE experiences. Joint in-service training for ECE staff and kindergarten teachers. Support existing Head Start and CDE activities.	S	P	P		P		
Lake	Creating school readiness centers, building on Healthy Start, at 7 schools. Burns Valley is flagship, with new state preschool serving 24 children. Other six schools already had state preschool. All low API schools in school district now covered. Lake County Office of Education and CCR&R/Head Start/CAP agency working closely. Joint use of Desired Results, and CARES stipend program.	P	S	P				
Los Angeles	The Commission committed \$500 million for five years to universal preschool. A plan will be ready by 11/14/2003. Some 125 people participate in monthly Advisory Committee meetings. Priority issues are workforce, quality and full day. The committee represents strategic partnerships with influential people outside the early education field who can take the message to policy makers and the public. The initial goal is to open model sites by September 2004 that will provide an upgraded program offering a differentiated curriculum for the preschool part of day. Programs will work toward accreditation or other quality assessment system. Through the SR Initiative, the Commission supports planning at the regional level to address diverse needs within the county. Each local area may have a different emphasis. It is hoped that the 15 SR sites will be part of the launch of preschool for all. In addition, the Los Angeles Unified School District bond sets aside \$80 million for preschool facilities. For information on individual components (such as facilities, quality, curriculum, delivery system, and community outreach), see the Commission website (www.prop10.org).	P	P	P			P	
Madera	Expanding early education opportunities for children 0-5 is at the core of SR Initiative. To stretch limited funds, the SR Initiative funds all go to program, with the (or School District?) providing the staff SR specialist. Emphasis is on enhancement of teacher qualifications through CARES and on articulation between preschool and kindergarten.	S	P		P	P	S	
Marin	The goal is increased access to quality, culturally appropriate preschool. There is a shortage of subsidized preschool, and infant care is in very short supply. Currently, the city of San Rafael Parks and Recreation Department is expanding a preschool center by 24 children. It is expected that the Commission will make a commitment to preschool expansion in the future. Emphasis is placed on workforce development, looking beyond CARES and on working with local jurisdictions to improve the regulatory environment for facilities development.	S	P	P	P	P	S	
Mariposa	Commission's school readiness application is in preparation. The Commission has been without an Executive Director for 2 months.	S		P	P	P	S	P

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Mendocino	The County Office of Education has developed a Consortium for State Preschools composed of administrators and teachers. Have worked with school districts to develop preschools on site, and have 18 now . Although some programs now have waiting lists, many children cannot attend part-day classes, and programs have difficulty attracting teachers to work part-day. School districts had to return two grants for preschool/child development because could not fill on part-time basis. For some sites, use Head Start funds to finance extended day component for state preschool . Cross-training available for early care providers, state preschool, and kindergarten teachers. Also have CARES stipends, and have applied for Early Reading First Grant. Parent advocates promote enrollment.	S	P	P	S	S	S	
Merced	The First 5 Merced County Children and Families Commission has embraced Preschool for All principles. In December 2001, the Commission allocated through its School Readiness Initiative nearly \$5 million to program development, including preschool expansion. By fall 2003, this investment had been used to leverage an additional \$5 million in state and federal funds. The Commission approved Merced City School District as its “flagship” SRI program site. Weaving together resources from throughout the district, MCSD tied in all 12 of the district’s schools with a vision to radically improve access to high quality preschool and family support services. By fall 2004, 90% of children entering kindergarten in MCSD are expected to have had some level of preschool exposure, up from only 50% in 2001. Superintendent and School Board strongly support universal preschool. With a combination of state preschool expansion funds, Title I, and Head Start, MCSD has added 168 preschool slots per year, 120 summer preschool, and 40 intercession, surpassing its initial goal of reaching 75% of children within 4 years. Priority to 4- and 5-year-olds. Because of Title I funds, 2 of 12 classrooms have no income eligibility requirements. 3 of 10 sites NAEYC accredited; rest applying. Part-day part-year; morning, afternoon, and twilight sessions. Transportation to 2 sites. Some home child care providers bring children to preschool sites. Professional development with curricular materials for preschool staff from a variety of settings. Inclusion of 45 children with special needs. MCSD preschool project will now serve as the pilot for expanding preschool access in the remaining 19 schools in the county that are eligible for school readiness funds.	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Mono	Expanding preschool is not a formal goal. Many communities are too small to support a center, so the focus is on increasing the supply and quality of licensed family child care. More than 50% of children are now in informal care. This summer kindergarten teachers will conduct 2-week Pre-kindergarten sessions for groups of 15 children. May explore development of a Pre-kindergarten program during the school year on the school site.	S	P		P	P		
Monterey	The SR Initiative will support child care for 100 additional children at the Alisal USD Family Resource Center (FRC) while their parents participate in FRC activities. Child care center staff and home-based providers will offer quarterly workshops to help prepare children for future school success. Promotores will receive training to provide more informed referral and better follow up services to families about ECE services, including programs to serve Spanish speaking families and children with special needs.		S	P		P		
Napa	The primary focus has been on CARES stipends to encourage professional development; Commission committed \$1.5 million (\$500,000 a year) to this effort . SR initiative upgrades services in two under-performing schools. Also provide workshops and forum to bring together child care, preschool and kindergarten teachers to look at Creative Curriculum.		P	P				

County	Activity Summary	Preschool/ ECE Expansion	Develop Workforce	Upgrade Existing Programs	Develop Facilities	Outreach To Promote Enrollment	Extend Day/ Year	Expand Income Eligibility
Nevada	Focus on creating seamless transitions for children between home, early care and school; continuity between ECE and elementary school; support for parental involvement. Special attention to the needs of Latino children and those with special needs, including development of a model special needs preschool . Grass Valley USD and Tahoe-Truckee USD have taken the lead in expanding state preschool . Sierra College Child Development Center is a "center of excellence"; a Commission grant supports a blended funding program for preschoolers and infants. The Educator Support Program (ESP) provides stipends and benefits reaching 20% of child care providers.	S	P	P		S	S	P
Orange	Local commission has used multiple strategies to expand preschool. First, a year before SR initiative, all 26 school districts hired school readiness coordinators. As a result, all SR-eligible districts applied for state preschool expansion funds . Also, 8 schools applied for Early Reading First grants , and Santa Ana SD has provided \$1.5 million in Title I funds for preschool . School readiness coordinator showed how investment in 0-5 raises test scores. Finally, really capitalized on CBET . They have money for portables and babysitters; commission brought in supplies and staff and converted into a school readiness program. Second, partner with other agencies; commission funded SR coordinator at Head Start grantee. Third, use local commission funds to offer programs in schools that are not under-performing, but have high % of low-income families. Major problem with families who do not meet eligibility for subsidized programs, but cannot afford full cost.	P	S	P	P		S	P
Placer	Emphasis is on coordination of Head Start and state preschool to create full day programs . Making Connections provides training and modeling of "best practices" in language development and early literacy for preschool providers. SR Initiative will work to align preschool and primary literacy curricula. SR coordinator is working with businesses to identify affordable space for preschool programs. SR initiative working to upgrade quality by teaching children development to informal providers through "Mommy and Me" classes.	P		P	S		P	
Plumas	The SR Initiative will focus on children not currently attending preschool through home visitation . Elementary and ECE teachers will focus on shared understanding of Pre-kindergarten Learning and Development Guidelines and kindergarten standards and curricula, joint training on working with special needs children and culturally appropriate activities, and developmental assessments.		P	P		P		
Riverside	Large efforts to renovate and modify facilities . Have established 5 models, with local commission financing facilities, and state commission financing operating costs. Also, in partnership with school district, established a Preschool Academy (Rob Reiner Children and Families Development Center) , bringing the hub of services to one site. Center includes infant-toddler program, special education program, autistic pilot program , home visitor and family intake, a clinic, and preschool program for 260 children who have not previously had preschool experience. Center serves 7 schools in one district, and 6 elementary classes in other districts. Goal is to increase percentage of children with preschool or formal ECE experience by 20% per year .	P	S		P			S

County	Activity Summary	Preschool/ ECE Expansion	Develop Workforce	Upgrade Existing Programs	Develop Facilities	Outreach To Promote Enrollment	Extend Day/ Year	Expand Income Eligibility
Sacramento	<p>Sacramento First 5's school readiness program in the Elk Grove School District amounts to a "preschool for all" program in three SR-eligible schools (see below).</p> <p>In addition, Sacramento First 5 Commission has two new SR programs. The Robla Elementary SD program will provide 24 new preschool slots to children from families above the income eligibility guidelines for state-funded preschool; a Saturday school (taught in Hmong) for 3- and 4-year-olds to reinforce school readiness and language development; and a over 4 years. The Folsom Cordova USD School Readiness Program will establish a new preschool facility serving 24 children at one of the target schools, provide summer KinderCamps serving 96 children, and provide workshops for 25 private child care providers. Finally, the North Sacramento SD will be initiating an SR program in December 2003 to upgrade the equipment in the Smythe Preschool, cross-train formal and informal child care providers; and establish a summer Pre-kindergarten camp serving 60 children over four years.</p>	P	P			P		P
<i>Elk Grove Unified School District</i> In Sacramento County	<p>The Elk Grove School District has made a major commitment toward the implementation of "preschool for all" program in Title I schools, and particularly in three schools eligible for First 5 SR funds. As a result of using Title I, Head Start, state preschool and local First 5 as well as state First 5 Commission funds, the three schools now provide preschool services to 73% of children before kindergarten entry. Morning, afternoon and twilight classes. No income requirements for the Title I and First 5-funded slots. All programs must meet Head Start Performance Standards, and use the Letter People emerging literacy and numeracy curriculum. District has helped teachers get credentials with 12 hours ECE, and salaries are commensurate with those of kindergarten teachers. District allocates 1/6 of its Title I funds to preschool.</p>	P	P		P			P
San Benito	<p>For SR initiative, priority is to develop an Early Learning Center that will serve 100 new children from two under-performing school neighborhoods. Of 250 children entering kindergarten in the two under-performing schools, 80 children are estimated to have been in Head Start, private child care, or migrant or state-funded preschool. Many children are above income eligibility requirements for Head Start. School district has contributed land on the elementary school campus with highest needs, and Commission is paying for re-locatable building (\$350,000). Center will be next door to a center for children with special needs. Using migrant preschool funds, there is no income eligibility requirement; however, family must have moved within last 3 years or work in agricultural industry. Center also will provide training for preschool teachers, child care staff, and home-based providers. Commission has not participated in CARES initiative due to funding constraints. Regular state Commission funds are used to fund three preschools (100 children) at \$259,430. One is the Jefferson Mobile Preschool, which serves children 0-5 who live in six different school districts in the sparsely populated southern part of the county. The Preschool provides services to children in the vicinity of large cattle ranches and in individual homes. Also, the Migrant Home Base program is funded at \$66,000. Migrant Home Base serves 100 children per year, operates from the Early Learning Center and is funded with regular Commission funds. Finally, the local Commission is investing in two preschools, at \$121,000 each, providing classroom-based instruction to 50 children and outreach services to 100. These last two preschools are not located in under-performing school neighborhoods.</p>	P	P		P			P
San Bernardino	<p>The Commission supports planning at the regional level to address diverse needs within the county. Each local area may have a different emphasis. There is a particular interest in reaching children with no preschool experience through summer Pre-kindergarten camps and Even Start. Since 1995, the number of licensed slots has nearly tripled and now 2/3 of children participate in structured Pre-kindergarten programs; the supply for 3-5 year olds is thought to be adequate, except for those needing subsidies and services provided in other-than-English. Head Start is committed to expansion.</p>	P	S	P	S	S	S	S

County	Activity Summary	Preschool/ ECE Expansion	Develop Workforce	Upgrade Existing Programs	Develop Facilities	Outreach To Promote Enrollment	Extend Day/ Year	Expand Income Eligibility
San Diego	<p>San Diego First 5 Commission School Readiness Initiative in San Diego Unified School District will fund 8 new full-day preschools, each serving 24-48 children, contingent on availability of space at under-performing schools. New early education strategies will enhance High/Scope curriculum and provide more formal early literacy program. Promotores will reach out to parents to make them aware of programs. Chula Vista School District SR Initiative will offer 3-week KinderCamp -- 2 schools will serve 36 children, and 6 will serve 18. Will also offer services between sessions of year-round schools? National School District will offer Pre-kindergarten Academies at four elementary schools for a minimum of 120 children for 2.5 hours a day for children who do not qualify for state preschool. A new preschool will also be established, and scholarships will be offered for above-income students.</p>	P		P	S	P		P
<i>San Diego Unified School District in San Diego County</i>	<p>About 4 years ago the San Diego Unified School District set a goal to place a quality preschool in every school campus (there are 180 schools in the district) in 5 years. Over the past three years, the district has added 38 new preschool programs to the 48 child care and state preschool programs that already served children on district campuses. And to open 8 “focus” schools. State Preschool, Head Start, and General Child Care and Development fund operating costs. The district provides infant-toddler care, mostly for teen parents. Both full-day and part-day preschool programs are offered, including twilight Head Start. San Diego First 5 provides \$10.5 million toward this effort; First 5 funds are used for workforce development and expanding eligibility to those above 75% of SMI. The salary structure promotes the BA degree, but salaries are still insufficient to recruit and retain sufficient numbers of personnel. San Diego CARES is invaluable in helping to address a teacher shortage. Professional growth advisers assist staff in planning their education.</p>	P	P	P	P		P	S
San Francisco	<p>Expansion and enhancement of early education is First Five Commission’s largest funded area. In October 2003, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors approved a charter amendment that creates a Public Education Enrichment Fund that will provide \$20 million per year by FY 2009-10 for Universal Access to Preschool. By September 2004, the First Five Commission, in consultation with the San Francisco Chldcare Planning and Advisory Council, the San Francisco Unified School District, the San Francisco Department of Children, Youth and Their Families, and community stakeholders, shall submit to the Board of Supervisors a proposal for a universal preschool program for San Francisco. Each year, the City shall appropriate one-third of the money in the Fund to the First Five Commission for universal preschool programs administered by the Commission.</p> <p>First Five funds havealso focused on quality assessments using ITERS and FDCRS and for operating subsidies to programs with a goal to increase supply and quality of infant/toddler slots. To be eligible, programs must serve at least 25% low- income children. Technical assistance is provided to improve quality. Child Care Facilities Fund, funded by developer fees, has supported creation of 1900 slots. The City of San Francisco contributes to SF CARES and WAGES, which have provided stipends to more than1700 child care workers.</p>	P	P		P			P
San Joaquin	<p>Preschool and Head Start enrollment will be increased by 31 in Stockton school attendance areas and by 36 in French Camp. In New Hope and Holt School Districts, all children ages 2.5 to 5 years will be offered a biweekly afternoon preschool program. Incoming kindergarteners can attend a 4-hour per day summer program. With University of North Carolina, Kindergarten and Pre-kindergarten teachers in Stockton USD are “cross walking” kindergarten and Pre-kindergarten guidelines as a way of bridging gaps.</p>	S		P		P		

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San Mateo	<p>First 5 San Mateo County began a feasibility study for the implementation of universal preschool nearly two years ago. The study was largely prompted by the difficulties of working parents in affording quality child care. 66% of the children in San Mateo County have working parents, self-sufficiency income is estimated at \$62,000 per year, and child care costs are the third highest in the state. San Mateo First 5 has assembled a 50-member Design Group, including representatives from school districts, Head Start, child care resource and referral, state preschool programs, private child care, and community college educators. The Design Group is currently working on building consensus for presenting a plan to First 5 that would focus on a combination of full- and part-day, voluntary models serving three- and four-year-olds. The Design Group has already reached consensus on the importance of having teachers with B.A. degrees. Several scenarios for phasing in access to preschool for all over a 10-year period are under consideration. First 5 San Mateo has pledged \$1 million per year for 10 years to the preschool for all program. Meanwhile, under its SR initiatives, First 5 San Mateo is expanding its summer kindergarten readiness program to more children who would otherwise not have the opportunity to attend any preschool.</p>	P	P	P			P	P
Santa Barbara	<p>The Commission has used its regular (non-SR) funds to increase state preschool to full day in areas where there is a very high workforce participation rate and where parents work multiple jobs. Many families had previously not participated in state preschool because it was a part-day program. Commission also established an Office of Early Care and Education; functions include Quality Improvement Project and helping facilities work with municipalities and meet regulations. Commission has funded an accreditation project for 3 years. "Spruce Up for Kids" program is designed to upgrade family child care and small centers. The Commission has funded child care resource and referral to recruit and train family child care providers and to coordinate their training with the Quality Improvement Project. The Commission has also funded a number of child care centers with start-up funding or expansion funding to increase quality child care slots throughout the county over the last three years. This has included site improvement as well as expansion. In some cases, the Commission has also funded the development of new centers. From the beginning, the Commission has expanded each of the Healthy Start sites and other Family Resource Centers to include services for children 0-5. In these projects, the Commission has focused on family support and family education. Finally, the Commission is investing in joint training for child care, preschool and kindergarten teachers.</p>		S	P			P	
Santa Clara	<p>The Commission is considering a process to plan Quality Early Learning Opportunities for All (QELO), serving children birth to 5. The Commission funds the Institute for Early Childhood Professional Development to focus on ECE provider training and workforce development through administration of the CARES program. Through the SR Initiative, School Readiness Academies combine preschool or Head Start and a variety of family resources including parenting classes, ESL, health and social services.</p>	P	P	S	S		P	
San Jose Unified School District In Santa Clara County	<p>Focus is on providing preschool at each of 31 elementary schools. Both part day and full day programs are offered to meet varying family needs. Program types vary - State Pre-K, Head Start, General Child Care, private providers. The goal is to unify standards through common training. A district bond includes funds to develop or renovate preschool facilities on campuses. FIRST 5 Santa Clara County contributes funds for care managers who help families gain access to services.</p>	P		P	P		S	S
Santa Cruz	<p>There are many high quality ECE programs in Santa Cruz County. Many are NAEYC accredited, and preliminary CARES data shows that licensed providers (center and home-based) are more educated and experience less turnover than expected. Need and lower quality is seen in informal care. First 5 Santa Cruz is expanding training opportunities for this group of providers, upgrading existing programs, and supporting literacy training for families and providers. First 5 funds coaching and mentoring for new providers to facilitate inclusion of special needs children. Child Care Ventures, originally funded by the Packard Foundation, is a full service technical assistance, loan, facilities assistance project that works to provide facilities with development assistance.</p>		P	P	P		P	S

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Shasta	Shasta Commission has just committed \$1 million to early childhood education to increase quality, access and other aspects. Major goal is increasing quality. Joint in-service training, incentives for accreditation, stipends for workforce training. Countywide, 15% of children birth to five are in preschool and 41% are in child care (prior to kindergarten entry). Added a state preschool class on a campus , and family advocates publicize availability. Centralized eligibility list through Shasta County Office of Education , which is also the child care resource and referral agency.	S	S	P	P	P		
Sierra	More than 75% of the ECE workforce participates in the Child Development Corps, which provides educational opportunities and seeks to improve child care environments. Overall goal of the SR Initiative is quality ECE . 90% of children receiving high quality care through increased coordination to support ECE providers and parents and to link ECE and other services with schools. SR Initiative will increase joint training opportunities for teachers and ECE providers on curricula and teaching methods. A new facility for the Sierra Valley Library and Children and Families Center will allow an existing preschool, working with Sierra County Office of Education , to create an inclusion class . Funds for the project come from the Library Construction Bond, First 5 Sierra, the county, the school district, and the City of Loyalton .		P	P	S	S		
Siskiyou	The Community Resource Center in Dorris will house a state preschool as well as a rural health clinic and other services such as Migrant Education and Even Start. Infant-toddler care will be expanded. Butte Valley USD supports school readiness activities through participation in the school readiness/standards integration project and contracting for state preschool services; in addition, the elementary school principal co-directs the SR initiative.			P				
Sonoma	Major goal of SR initiative is to increase percentage of children with some type of structured preschool experience from 30 to 60% in seven contiguous school neighborhoods eligible for school readiness funds . SR initiative expands Head Start, creates Twilight preschool program, establishes five-week summer preschool, and uses family outreach workers/advocates to publicize state preschool and Head Start first to families in school neighborhood . Also Child Care Resource and Referral agency visits family child care homes in vicinity of under-performing schools to provide Raising a Reader and linkage to schools. As a part of \$750,000 Regional Child Care Initiative, 3 of 7 regions put money into voucher program; others investing in new facilities . Extensive Provider Retention Program; ECERS training a requirement for stipend.	P	P	P	S	P		
Stanislaus	5 school readiness proposals being submitted independently of each other, so focus varies. Some would expand state preschool or Head Start; some explore use of after-school program sites for preschool or Head Start programs. Commission funds stipends to encourage providers to obtain further education and also supports joint-in-service training with kindergarten teachers .	P	P		P	P	S	P
Trinity	A new preschool class for 3-4 year olds will open at Hayfork Elementary School by September 2003. All preschool programs at the 5 SR school sites will receive training to implement a standards-based curriculum developed by Trinity County Office of Education . SR Initiative will train ECE providers on meeting the needs of culturally, linguistically, and ethnically diverse children and families . Training will be provided on observation and referral skills to identify children with possible special needs . K- and Pre-K teachers will meet to create kindergarten transition plans for every school. SR staff will work with community colleges to develop on-line training.	P	S	P				

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Tulare	Goal is availability of voluntary Pre-kindergarten for all 4-year old children at 16 SR initiative schools in 4 years . County and state FIRST 5 funds provide \$100,000 per site to expand or upgrade programs and to leverage operating dollars. SR initiative establishes 4-week summer school academies on school campus to orient incoming kindergartners and Mommy and Me programs for younger children. Emphasis is placed on early identification of special needs through developmental screenings and referrals to services incorporated into all commission- sponsored activities. Special needs aides work onsite at preschools with children identified as functioning below age level . Language acquisition and expression are key goals; books and information about schools are provided at home visits, health and community fairs, well child visits.	P		P		P	P	
Ventura	Major emphasis is to increase preschool slots. Of 1900 children entering kindergarten in Oxnard, half have no preschool experience. Will serve 400 new children in half-day, school-year preschool program . Use local commission money for purchase of portables, and state SR funds, Head Start, and state preschool for operation. 55% of local commission funds go to Neighborhoods for Learning, which provided a platform on which to build the school readiness initiative. Several Neighborhoods for Learning are interested in Preschool for All . Exploring options for financing facilities and program operations. School district would be lead fiscal agent. In addition to preschool expansion, SR initiative will serve 500 children in one-month summer program . Commission also supporting family child care networks, community college and state college to provide more training. CARES scholarships to encourage training. School Readiness initiative provides scholarships for children from families above eligibility cutoff.	P	P	S	P	P		S
Yolo	Access to quality ECE is one of two areas of emphasis in the new strategic plan. Training will be provided on state Pre-kindergarten curriculum for license-exempt providers to improve quality, encourage licensure, and increase consistency with state preschool. Specific initiatives will be funded through an RFP process that allows goal setting and strategies to be determined by the community.	P	P	P		P		
Yuba	The SR Initiative targets 5-week Kinder Camps to 180 5-year olds in Marysville Joint Unified SD with no ECE experience, those exhibiting school readiness needs, and/or those with special needs. Pre-kindergarten and Kindergarten teachers will co-teach the classes; Pre-K teachers will overlap with afternoon extended-day care. During that time, parents can participate in classes and receive guidance on helping their children succeed in kindergarten. The Yuba COE will provide speech and language screening and instruction. Outreach workers will encourage parents to use ECE programs and/or KinderCamp, assist with KinderCamp, provide assistance with transportation and other services, and identify the school readiness needs of younger children.		P	P		P	P	