



**FIRST 5 SAN MATEO COUNTY
POLICY AND ADVOCACY PLATFORM
2016-2018**

POLICY FOCUS	ACTIVITIES
Early Learning	
Promote initiatives supporting quality early learning environments such as the CA Quality Rating Improvement Systems (QRIS). Lead and Implementing partner for SMCs QRIS consortia. Advocate for policy recommendations gleaned from achievements and lessons learned from regional and statewide QRIS Implementation.	CA Dept. of Education & First 5 California IMPACT-QRIS; San Mateo County QRIS Consortia; Regional and Statewide Work-groups.
Support increased access to quality learning environments and facilities (infant toddler & preschool environments). Support and promote efforts that: finance and maintain new and existing learning environments and efforts that address workforce development and operational needs.	Build Up for SMC Children's (Facilities); Brion Early Learning Facilities Report; Child Care Partnership Council – Policy and Advocacy Committee
Strong Families	
Promote the use of Authentic Family Engagement across major systems that support young children and families (i.e. child welfare, early learning, health special needs and social services).	Friday Café's; First 5 San Mateo County's Family Engagement Provider Network.
Advocate, fund, and support care coordination across various settings.	First 5 San Mateo County Evaluation Data; Watch Me Grow & Help Me Grow Systems Group; Lucile Packard Foundation for Children's Care Coordination Advocacy
Health and Development	
Promote routine universal developmental and behavioral screenings for infants and toddlers according to American Academy of Pediatric Guidelines. Support pediatricians, health care providers, and early childhood experts in monitoring children's development and providing linkages to community supports. Emphasis on both public and private providers.	Watch Me Grow & Help Me Grow; All First 5 Supported Programs
Support community-based oral health services to children throughout SMC through various models including Virtual Dental Home. Lead SMC Oral Health Strategic Plan Implementation.	SMC Oral Health Initiative; Ravenswood Virtual Dental Home Model; Children's Work group
Support parents advocating for health equity issues including housing, immigration and transportation.	Safe Health and Equitable Communities; Build-up for San Mateo County Kids
System Sustainability and Enhancement	
Promote and support improved data collection, data sharing and integration among programs/agencies that serve young children and families	Big Data Project (RWC);
Support providers from all major systems that support young children and families with professional development and increased knowledge in key areas such as: trauma informed care, infant and early childhood mental health, and early brain development and cross sector trainings	Mental Health Systems Planning; Human Services Agency Central Support Staff Collaboration
Advocate for a comprehensive look at ways to sustain, improve and leverage the multiple local state and federal funding streams that serve the needs of children and families birth to five (across sectors).	MAA Leveraging Analysis; County and State Funding Support Analyses