

March 2024



First 5 Placer

Local Evaluation Report FY 2022-2023

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research



First 5 Placer Background

- **Goal:** Build early childhood systems and supports needed to ensure children are safe, healthy, and ready to succeed in school and life
- **Approach:** Collaborative Impact
- **Funding:** Over \$3 million in programs, services, and systems strengthening efforts



Report Purpose

- Characteristics of First 5 Placer program participants
- Impacts on children, their families, and the overall system of care
- Organized by Commission's four key focus areas: Oral Health, Maternal and Child Health, Early Literacy, and Family Strengthening



Methods



Family Retrospective Survey



Persimmony data system



One on one and group conversations with funded partners

A blue-tinted photograph of a playground scene. In the foreground, a man in a light-colored shirt and dark pants stands on the left, smiling and holding a camera up to take a picture. In the center, a young boy is swinging on a swing set. To the right, a young girl is sitting on a swing, and a woman is crouching next to her, possibly adjusting the swing or talking to her. The background shows a park with trees and a tall, cylindrical play structure. The sun is visible through the trees, creating a bright spot. The overall scene is peaceful and active.

Participant Characteristics

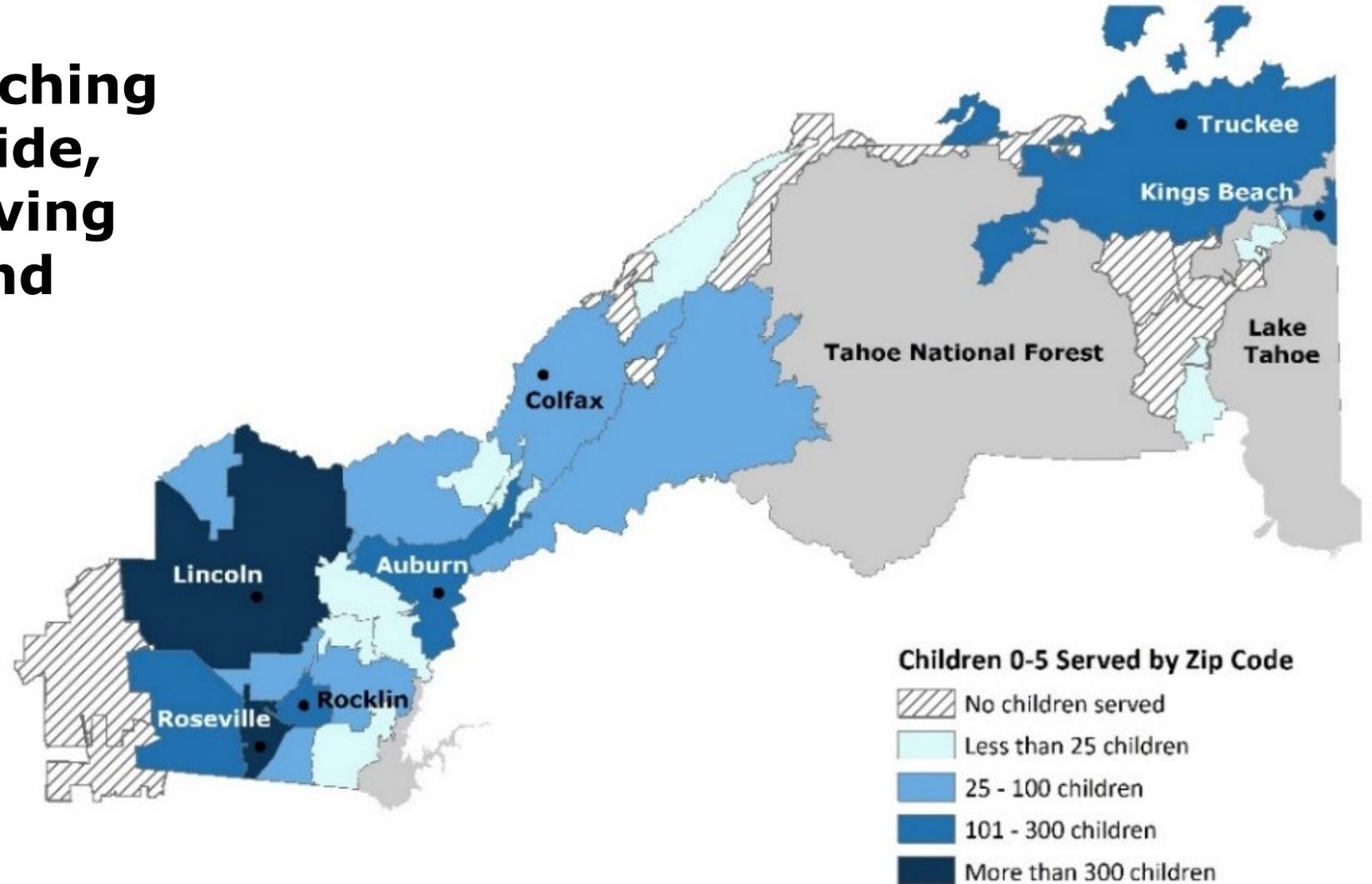
Participant Characteristics

More than half of children served were from historically underserved racial and ethnic communities.

Race/ethnicity	2021-2022	2022-2023	Placer County
Alaska Native/ American Indian	1%	1%	1%
Asian	2%	4%	7%
Black/African American	4%	4%	1%
Hispanic/Latino	56%	44%	20%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	<1%	1%	<1%
White	33%	42%	66%
Other	4%	5%	6%

Participant Characteristics

Programs are reaching children countywide, including those living in underserved and less populated communities



Participant Characteristics

First 5 Placer services reached many of the Commission's priority populations.

47%

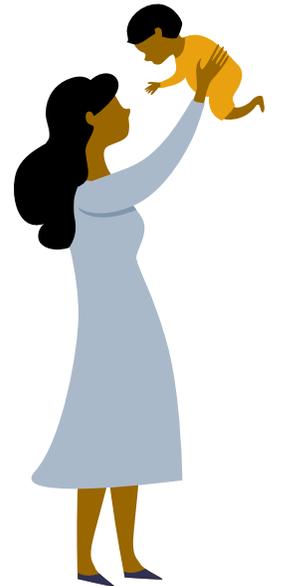
identified as a single parent

69%

reported making less than \$24,000 a year

60%

had a high school or GED education or less



A photograph of a dental professional, a woman with dark hair and a white lab coat, wearing a white glove and holding a dental mirror. She is examining the teeth of a young boy who is wearing a white surgical mask and a plaid shirt. The boy is smiling. In the background, a woman with curly hair is smiling and looking at the child. Another woman is partially visible on the left, looking towards the child. The entire image has a blue tint.

Oral Health

Overview

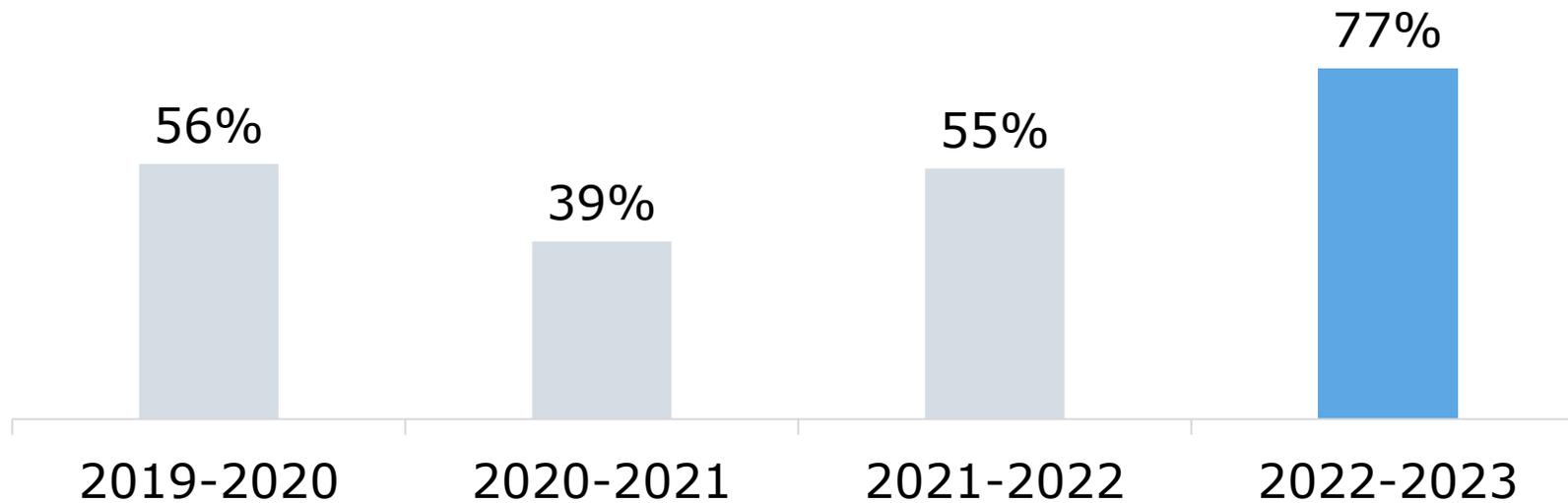
Funded partner: Placer County Health and Human Services.

Direct services: Oral health education, dental kits, dental screenings, fluoride varnish applications, referrals.

Systems strengthening efforts: Countywide Oral Health Alliance, data sharing, consistent oral health messaging, and outreach to underserved communities.

Oral Health

There is an upward trend in the number of children who visited the dentist in the past year.



Oral Health

Parents engage in other important oral health practices.



78%

encourage their child to participate in oral health practices

73%

help their child brush/floss

69%

limit their child's intake of sugary food and drinks



Maternal & Child Health

Overview

Funded partners: Latino Leadership Council, Insights Counseling Group, Granite Wellness, and Sierra Native Alliance.

Direct services: Counseling, healthcare education and navigation, case management, maternal mental health services.

Systems strengthening efforts: Collaborative network of home visiting agencies, professional development to strengthen workforce.

Maternal and Child Health

First 5 Placer services are improving maternal health.

After participating in a First 5 Placer service, parents/caregivers reported:

 **79%** reported increased **physical health**

 **83%** reported decreased **stress**

 **83%** reported increased feelings of **joy or happiness**

Prenatal Care Spotlight

Only 57% of pregnant people received prenatal care in their first trimester of pregnancy.

Funded partner response:

- Connect clients to community clinics where they can start prenatal care under the program Preventive Medi-Cal while waiting for their Medi-Cal to process.
- Support clients by making sure all the proper documentation is turned into the proper channels to ensure they have a medical home.



A photograph of a woman with glasses and a young girl sitting at a table, looking at a tablet together. The woman is pointing at the screen while the girl looks on. The scene is set in a home environment with a whiteboard and a desk in the background. The entire image has a blue color overlay.

Early Literacy

Overview

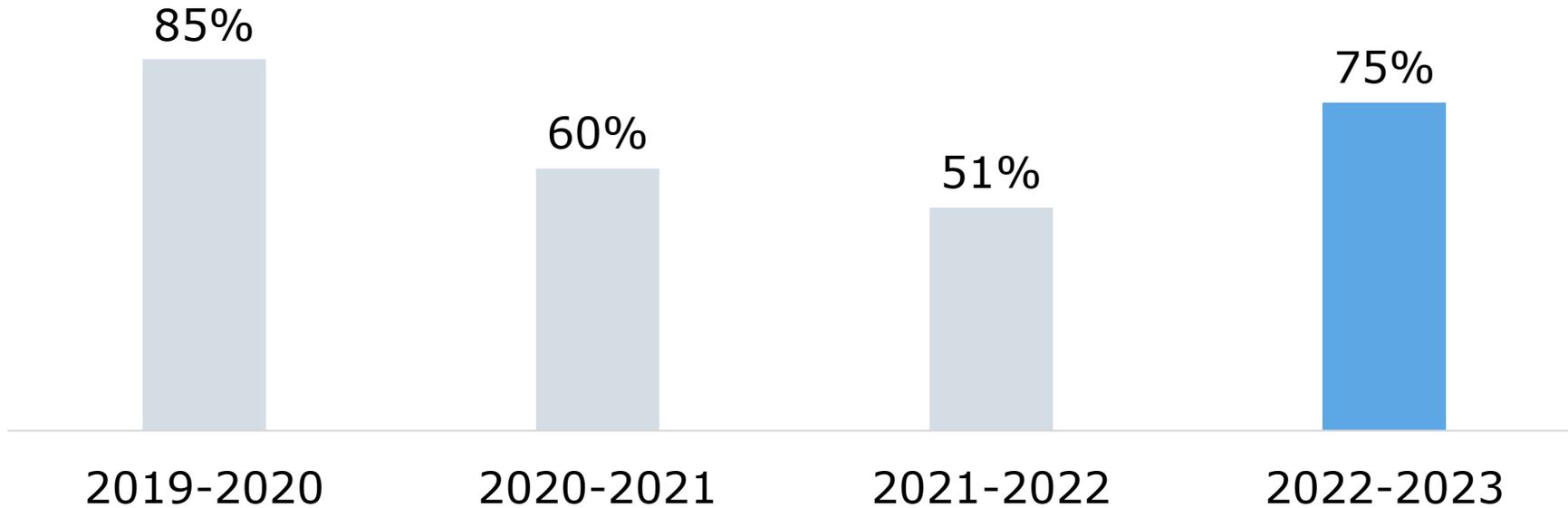
Funded partners: Placer County Office of Education and Tahoe Truckee Unified School District.

Direct services: Literacy-based training, resources, and books to parents/caregivers; offer playgroups at place-based locations; encourage use of local libraries and the book mobile.

Systems strengthening efforts: Early Literacy Advisory Council, data sharing, consistent early literacy messaging across programs and systems.

Early Literacy

Parents increased how often they read books with their child.



Early Literacy

Parents increased engagement in other early literacy practices.

81%

Talk, sing, play

74%

Practice writing or drawing

66%

Have books that reflect language and culture

45%

Visit the library/use virtual services





Family Strengthening

Overview

Funded partners: KidsFirst, Lighthouse, Stand Up Placer, Child Advocates, Sierra Community House, and Sierra Native Alliance.

Direct services: Counseling, case management, information and referral services, and tools for families to increase parenting skills.

Systems strengthening efforts: Collaborative network of home visiting agencies, professional development to strengthen workforce.

Family Strengthening

Parents reported increases in important protective factors.



92% more confident

90% advocate for themselves

89% set goals together to overcome challenges

74% use a family budget

Family Strengthening

"I am **more confident** as a parent and individual. I love not feeling alone."

-Parent/caregiver

"I really feel like my mentor has helped me learn how to **advocate for myself.**"

-Parent/caregiver

"It has helped me to understand my own mental health which in returns is beneficial for my child and family as I now have **better communication skills and coping strategies.**"

-Parent/caregiver

""En tener mas paciencia y atencion a mi Hijo."

-Parent/caregiver



Additional Grants

Refugee Family Support

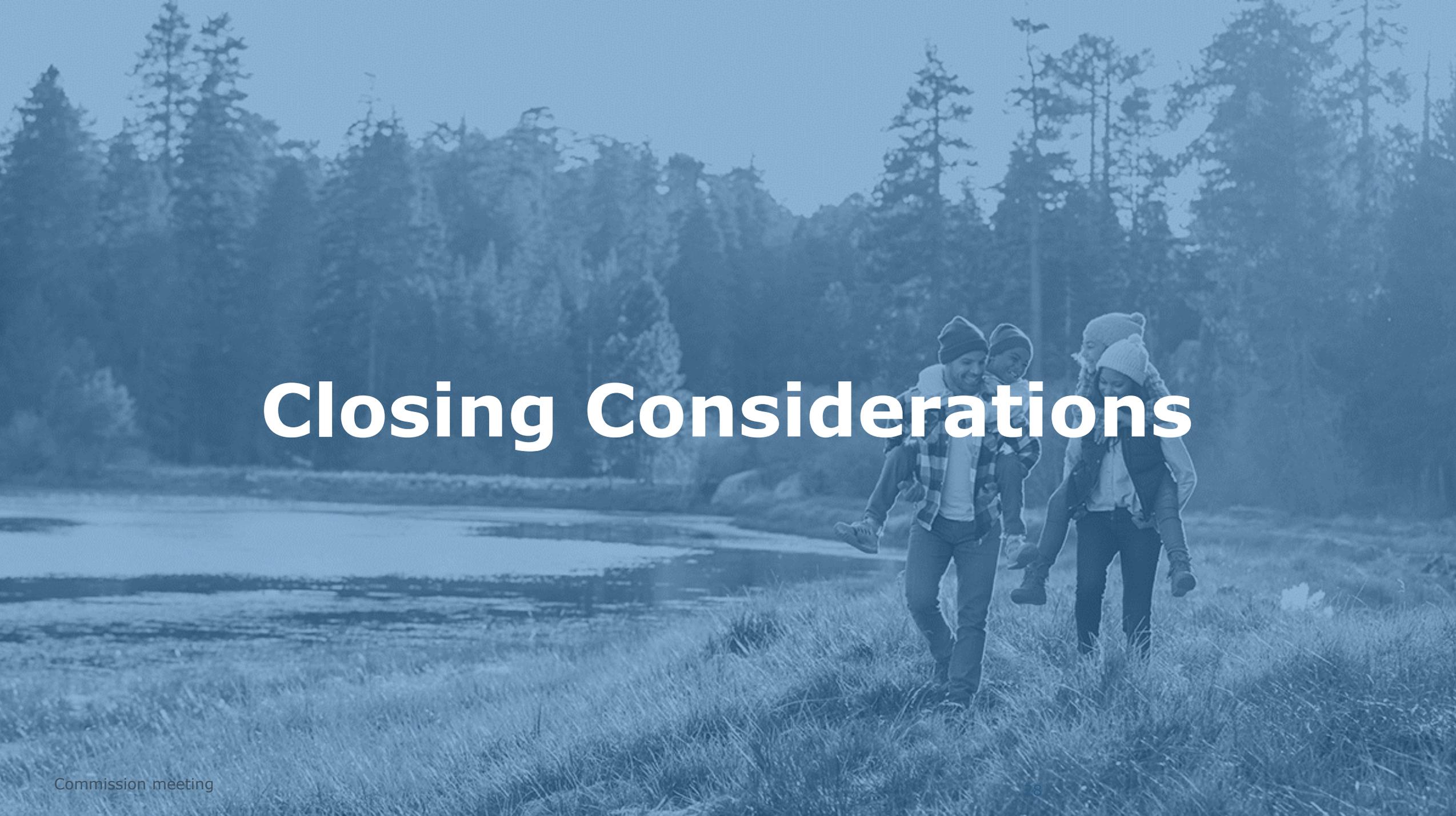
- **Funded Partners:** Latino Leadership Council, Child Advocates of Placer County
- **Tri-County Collaboration:** Placer, Sutter, & Yolo
- **Services:** Linkages to housing assistance, basic needs, healthcare/wellbeing, navigation/service coordination, language support, and other assistance.



Road to Resilience

- **Funded Partners:** Granite Wellness, KidsFirst, Sierra Native Alliance, Chapa De
- **Services:** In-home case management, supportive services, and referrals to community-based agencies for pregnant people at risk of substance abuse.

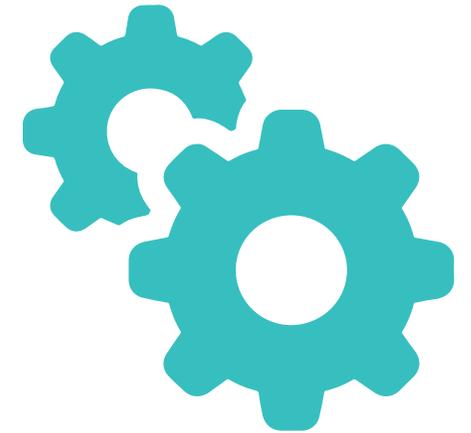




Closing Considerations

Closing Considerations

- **Systemic barriers** may make it difficult to fully achieve strategic plan goals
- Continuing to use a **collective impact** approach will help support families and funded partners in the long term



A hand is shown in the foreground, pointing towards the right. The background is a blurred image of several people's faces, suggesting a meeting or a group of people. The entire image has a blue tint.

Questions



January 2024

Local Evaluation Report Fiscal Year 2022-2023

First 5 Placer

Background

First 5 Placer was established 25 years ago after California voters approved Proposition 10, which levied a tax on tobacco products to “support, promote, and optimize early childhood development through coordinated programs that emphasize child health, parent education, childcare, and other services and programs for children prenatal through age 5.” With this funding, First 5 Placer was established with the aim of building the early childhood systems and supports needed to ensure Placer County’s youngest children are safe, healthy, and ready to succeed in school and life. To achieve this goal, First 5 Placer plays a number of roles including funder, partner, and convener. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2022-2023, First 5 Placer’s investments in programs, services, and systems strengthening efforts totaled over \$3 million.

The purpose of this report is to document the characteristics of First 5 Placer program participants as well as how the Commission’s investments are impacting young children, their families, and the overall system of care. It is organized by the Commission’s four key focus areas: Oral Health, Maternal and Child Health, Early Literacy, and Family Strengthening. The Commission’s efforts to strengthen the early childhood system of services are also highlighted. Findings are informed by a Family Retrospective Survey (n=159)¹, funded partner data from the Persimmony data system, as well as one on one and group conversations with funded partners.

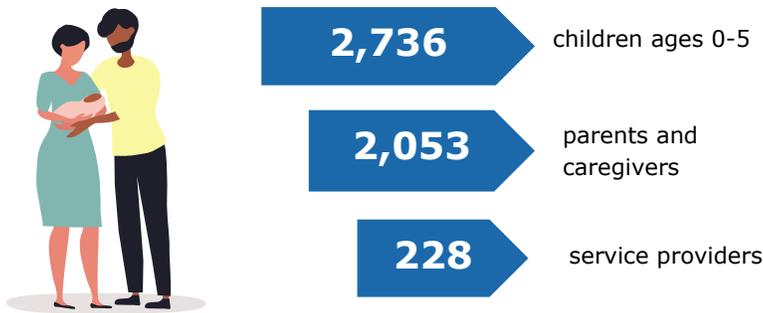
In Fiscal Year 2022-2023, First 5 Placer’s investments in programs, services, and systems strengthening efforts totaled over \$3 million.

¹ The 2022-2023 Retrospective Family Survey included a diverse sample reflecting several First 5 Placer priority populations. For additional information about the respondents, please refer to the 2022-2023 Retrospective Family Survey Databook.

Participant Characteristics

Nearly 5,500 children, parents, and providers were served by First 5 Placer in FY 2022-2023.

First 5 Placer's investments in programs, services, and systems strengthening efforts reached a total of 5,487 individuals in FY 2022-2023. Persimmony data shows this included 2,736 children ages 0-5, 2,053 parents/caregivers², and 228 service providers.



First 5 Placer funded services reached many of the Commission's priority populations.

Persimmony data collected from all funded partners show First 5 Placer made progress toward their equity goals by investing in programs that reached their priority populations. This includes families from historically underserved racial and ethnic communities, those who speak a primary language other than English, and those living in underserved or less populated communities. Additionally, data from a sample of families who completed the Retrospective Family Survey (n=159) show:

- 47% identified as a single parent
- 69% reported making less than \$24,000 a year
- 60% had a high school or GED education or less

In FY 2022-2023, more than half of children served were from historically underserved racial and ethnic communities. This includes 44 percent of children who identified as Hispanic/Latino, 4 percent Asian, 4 percent Black or African American, 1 percent Alaska Native or American Indian, and 1 percent Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander. However, from 2021-2022 to 2022-2023, there was a decline in the number of Hispanic/Latino children served and an increase in the number of white children served. Exhibit 1 below illustrates the race and ethnicities of children served by First 5 Placer from 2019 to 2023 compared to Placer County overall.

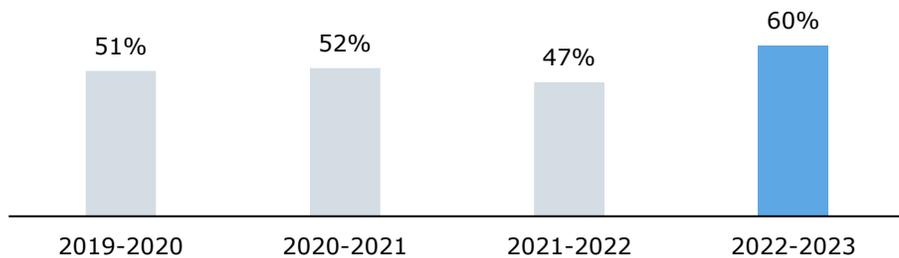
² This number includes parents, guardians, caregivers, and other family members.

Exhibit 1. Race and Ethnicity of Children Served³

Race/ethnicity	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	Placer County
Alaska Native/ American Indian	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Asian	4%	3%	2%	4%	7%
Black/African American	2%	1%	4%	4%	1%
Hispanic/Latino	29%	54%	56%	44%	20%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	<1%	<1%	<1%	1%	<1%
White	56%	35%	33%	42%	66%
Other	6%	5%	4%	5%	6%

In FY 2022-2023, 60 percent of children served spoke a language other than English, including Spanish, Farsi, Middle Eastern, Ukrainian, and Mandarin.⁴ The languages spoken by First 5 Placer children reflect the primary languages spoken by children in kindergarten in Placer County.⁵

Exhibit 2. Children who speak a language other than English



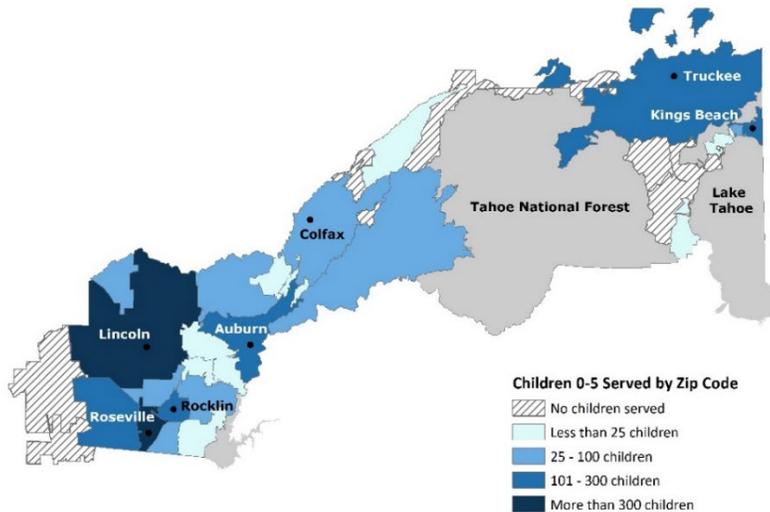
³ Placer County Child Race Ethnicity data <https://www.kidsdata.org/topic/33/child-population-race/Pie#fmt=144&loc=343&tf=141&ch=7,11,70,10,72,9,73&pdist=73>. Accessed December 2023. Percentages exclude individuals for whom race and ethnicity data was not collected or reported. In FY 2022-2023, other includes multiracial, Afghanistan, Russian, and Ukrainian. Due to rounding, totals may not add to 100 percent.

⁴ Percentages exclude individuals for whom language data was not collected or reported.

⁵<https://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/SpringData/StudentsByLanguage.aspx?Level=County&TheYear=2022-23&SubGroup=All&ShortYear=2223&GenderGroup=B&CDSCode=3100000000000&RecordType=EL>

Exhibit 3. Child zip code data⁶

Similar to previous years, First 5 Placer funded programs served children throughout the county, with the greatest number of children living in Lincoln (95648, 498 children served), Roseville (95678, 346 children served), and Kings Beach (96143, 215 children served). Partners also reached children living in underserved or less populated communities including Alta, Applegate, Carnelian Bay, Colfax, Foresthill, Homewood, Meadow Vista, Newcastle, Penryn, Sheridan, Tahoe Vista, and Weimar.



Oral Health

With the goal of improving the oral health of children ages 0-5, First 5 Placer funds the Placer County Health and Human Services agency to provide preventative oral health services. This includes oral health education, dental kits, dental screenings and fluoride varnish applications. They also provide oral health referrals and connect families to dental homes. To strengthen the oral health system of care, First 5 Placer and the Oral Health Program developed a countywide Oral Health Alliance, engaged in quarterly data sharing, promoted consistent oral health messaging across programs and systems, and strategically outreached to underserved communities.

In the last fiscal year, the Placer County oral health program partnered with community organizations to distribute nearly 3,000 dental bags containing oral health education materials and supplies to high-need communities in Kings Beach, Auburn, Roseville, and Lincoln. They also conducted over 200 dental assessments and nearly 150 fluoride varnish applications.

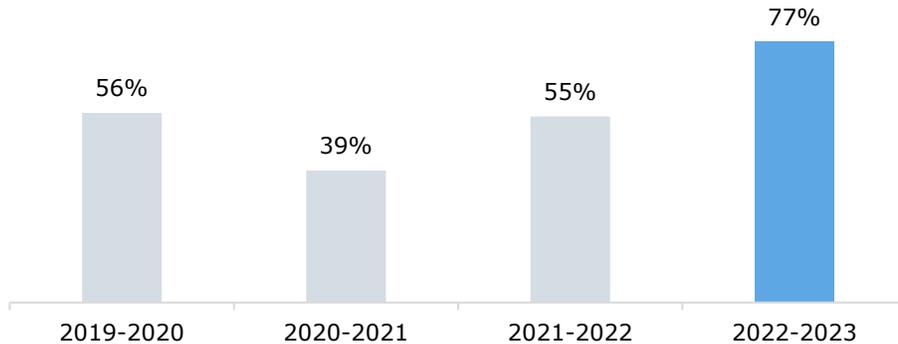
Data from the Retrospective Family Survey show a continued upward trend in the number of First 5 Placer children who visited the dentist in the past year. Although not as high as the statewide average⁷ (89%), over three-quarters of parents/caregivers in Placer County reported their child visited a dental for a routine visit in FY 2022-2023, up from 55 percent in 2021-2022. A potential contributing factor to this increase is 72 percent of parents/caregivers are more aware of dental providers in their community.

⁶ Percentages exclude individuals for whom zip code data was not collected or reported. Zip codes outside of Placer County were also excluded.

⁷ Data is based on children in California ages 2-11.

<https://www.kidsdata.org/topic/264/last-dental-visit/table#fmt=86&loc=2,343&tf=109&ch=1091,716,556,557,1437&sortColumnId=0&sortType=asc>

Exhibit 4. Children who visited the dentist in past year for a routine visit



First 5 Placer parents shared they were not able to take their child to the dentist because they were too young, didn't have transportation, had to wait too long to schedule an appointment, and didn't know a dentist in their area.

The oral health program noted the lack of dental providers in Placer County's rural areas that accept Medi-Cal Dental has continued to be a significant barrier to accessing dental care. This includes families living in the North Lake Tahoe region where there are no dental providers who accept Medi-Cal Dental. To help mitigate these challenges, the program prioritizes providing dental supplies and direct preventive services to the North Lake Tahoe area. They also maintain an updated list of child and adult Medi-Cal Dental providers in the county.

Parents/caregivers also reported engaging in other important preventive oral health practices with their child such as:



Maternal and Child health

To promote maternal and child health and wellness, First Placer funds the Latino Leadership Council, Insights Counseling Group, Granite Wellness, and Sierra Native Alliance. Services include counseling, healthcare education and navigation (including prenatal and postpartum care), comprehensive case management, and maternal mental health services. To strengthen the maternal and child health system of care, First 5 Placer and the funded partners participated in a collaborative network of home visiting agencies and provided professional development and training to strengthen the workforce.

In the last fiscal year, nearly 50 pregnant or parenting people received Promotores services, (including resources to reduce barriers to prenatal or postnatal care such as transportation or childcare barriers), over 40 families received individual psychotherapy services, 24 parents received substance use disorder treatment services including counseling, therapy and parent education, and more than 40

parents received family visits and/or counseling.

Retrospective Family Survey data revealed most First 5 Placer children (97%) visited a doctor for a routine visit in the last year. This percentage is relatively high considering statewide data show 53 percent of children received care at a medical home.⁸ Additionally, First 5 Placer parents/caregivers reported over one-third of children were screened for a special need or developmental delay.

Survey data show:

97% of children had been to the doctor in the last year for a routine visit

37% of children were screened for a special need, a health problem, a delay or disability



After First 5 Placer parents/caregivers participated in a funded program:

↑ 79% reported increased **physical health**

↓ 83% reported decreased **stress**

↑ 83% reported increased feelings of **joy or happiness**

Prenatal Care Spotlight

Data from the Retrospective Family Survey revealed slightly more than half (57%) of pregnant people received prenatal care in their first trimester of pregnancy which is a slight increase from previous years. However, the percentage of those receiving early prenatal care is relatively low compared to Placer County-level data, which reflects 87 percent of mothers received care in their first trimester.

First 5 Placer pregnant people shared several reasons why they were not able to receive prenatal care in their first trimester of pregnancy including: not knowing how to find services, not having time to make an appointment, having to wait too long for an appointment, choosing to wait to see a doctor, didn't know they were pregnant, and didn't have insurance.

The Latino Leadership Council shared a major challenge to connecting their pregnant clients to early prenatal care – some of whom are having just arrived to the United States - is finding accessible care for those who do not have health insurance and/or are in the process of Medi-Cal. They aim to mitigate this challenge by connecting clients to community clinics where they can start prenatal care under the program Preventive Medi-Cal while they are waiting for their Medi-Cal to process. They also support clients by making sure all the proper documentation is turned in to the proper channels to ensure they have a medical home.

Early Literacy

To promote early literacy First 5 funded programs including the Placer County Office of Education and Tahoe Truckee Unified School District encourage literacy practices (such as talking, reading, and singing) by providing literacy-based training, resources, and books to parents/caregivers; offer playgroups at place-based locations; and encourage use of local libraries and the book mobile. To

⁸ <https://www.kidsdata.org/topic/271/medical-home/table#fmt=81&loc=343&tf=139&sortColumnId=0&sortType=asc>

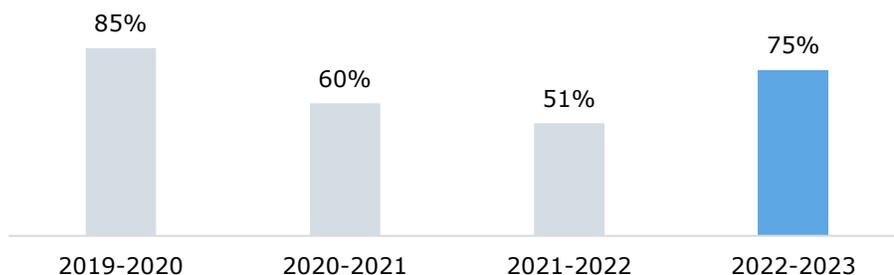
⁹ <https://www.kidsdata.org/topic/312/prenatal-care/table#fmt=94&loc=2,343&tf=141&sortType=asc>

strengthen the early literacy system of care, First 5 Placer and the funded partners participated in the Early Literacy Advisory Council, engaged in quarterly data sharing, and promoted consistent early literacy messaging across programs and systems.

Last fiscal year, approximately 5,000 books were distributed to families to help build home libraries, over 400 teachers and 90 parents participated in an early literacy training program (including a Father Literacy Program), and 23 families participated in the Kings Beach Family Room, a program that offers play-based learning as well as opportunities for parents to meet others and learn developmentally appropriate strategies and activities to do with their children.

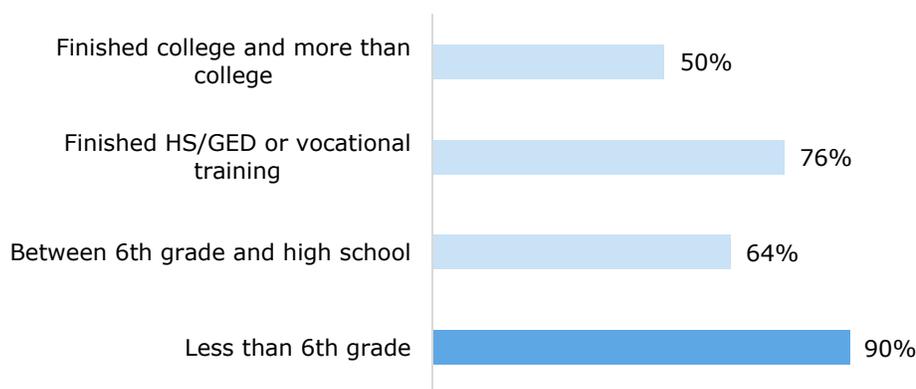
After participating in a First 5 Placer program, Retrospective Family Survey data shows three-quarters of parents/caregivers reported they increased how often they read books with their child. This percentage is high compared to statewide data showing 44 percent of California caregivers read to their child.¹⁰

Exhibit 5. Parents/caregivers who increased how often they read books with their child



Notably, First 5 Placer parents/caregivers with the lowest education level (less than 6th grade) reported the greatest increases in reading frequency with their child (Exhibit 6). At the June Learning Conversation, funded partners were excited by the data, as it is an indicator of the effectiveness of their work to promote early literacy in high need communities. Funded partners further reflected that while the overall improvement in early literacy practices are promising there is still room for improvement.

Exhibit 6. Parent/caregiver education level and reading frequency



¹⁰ <https://www.kidsdata.org/topic/2276/covid19-activities-reading/table#fmt=2800&loc=2&tf=157&sortColumnId=0&sortType=asc>

Retrospective Family Survey data also shows parents/caregivers reported increased engagement in other important early literacy practices after participating in a funded program:

- 81%** Talk, sing, play
- 74%** Practice writing or drawing with their children
- 66%** Have more books that reflect language and culture
- 45%** Visit the library or using virtual services



Family Strengthening

Family support is another key focus area of the Commission, due to the impact child maltreatment has on the physical and mental health of children and families. Funded partners including KidsFirst, Lighthouse, Stand Up Placer, Child Advocates, Sierra Community House, and Sierra Native Alliance, target child abuse prevention to promote a support system that provides families with essential tools to increase parenting skills, reduce stress, and help establish respectful family interactions. Similar to the Maternal and Child Health focus area, First 5 Placer and the funded partners aimed to strengthen the system by participating in a collaborative network of home visiting agencies and providing professional development and training to strengthen the workforce.

Last fiscal year,:

- 200 families participating in a home visiting program.
- 70 families received intensive case management.
- 50 parents participated in 10 or more therapy sessions focused on parenting education, interventions, and family supportive connections.
- 100 children and their parents or kinship caregivers participated in a program focused on helping parents to reunify with their kids and stabilize relationships between kinship caregivers and the child they are caring for.
- 500 families received family strengthening support, case management and information and referrals services.
- 40 parents received family visiting, counseling, or a screening/assessment.

"I am **more confident** as a parent and individual. I love not feeling alone."

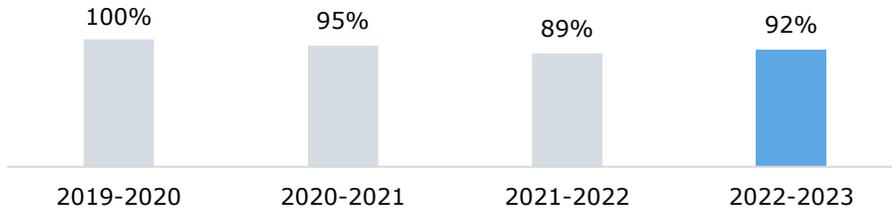
-Parent/caregiver

"Counseling really helped me **handle stress** and improve parenting ."

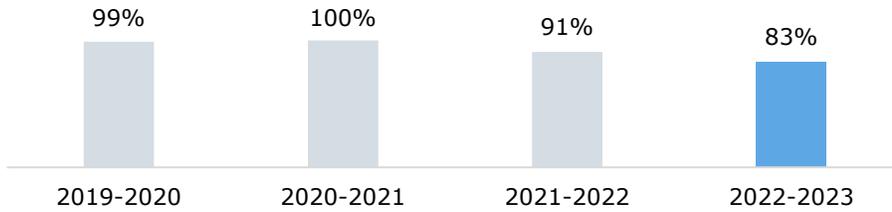
-Parent/caregiver

Retrospective Family Survey data shows 92 percent of parents/caregivers reported they feel more confident, a slight increase from 2021-2022. Although the majority (83%) reported it being easier to manage stress, this rate is a continued decline from previous years.

I feel more confident in myself as a parent.



It is easier to manage the daily stresses of raising my child.



Parents/caregivers reported that since participating in the program that their family is better able to:

90% advocate for themselves

89% set goals together to overcome challenges

74% use a family budget



Parents/caregivers also stated the program benefited them in the following ways:

“En tener mas paciencia y atencion a mi Hijo.”

“It has benefited all of us immensely in so many different aspects in our lives. It has carried me and been by my side through some dark times and things and I would not have made it out or my kiddos have their mom if it wasn’t for this program”

“It has helped me to understand my own mental health which in returns is beneficial for my child and family as I now have better communication skills and coping strategies.”

“I really feel like my mentor has helped me learn how to advocate for myself.”

Project Spotlights

The **Refugee Family Support** was one effort First 5 Placer supported as part of their systems change work. The grant provided resources and support to refugee families with children ages 0-5 who have resettled in Placer, Sutter, or Yolo County. Funded partners offered a range of services including housing assistance, basic needs, healthcare/wellbeing services, navigation/service coordination, and language support. They leveraged collaborations to reach and engage families in relevant ways, they also successfully helped families navigate systems by building trusting relationships with them.

The **Road to Resilience (RtR)** program was another effort that First 5 Placer continued to support to contribute to systems change. Funded by the Office of Child Abuse Prevention (OCAP), RtR provided mothers with substance use or at risk of substance use abuse with in-home case management, supportive services, and referrals to community-based agencies. Through collaboration with funded partners, healthcare service providers, and community-based organizations, RtR supported participants in taking steps to overcome their substance use and prevent relapse and eliminate negative child outcomes associated with parental substance use.

Systems Impact

Grounded in a *Collaborative Impact* (“Collective Impact light”) framework, First 5 Placer aims to support the development of sustainable systems that serve the interconnected needs of communities in Placer County. Toward this aim, First 5 Placer engaged in several activities including supporting a) the engagement of efforts focused on young children, b) local funding opportunities (e.g., Refugee Family Support Programs), and c) shared initiatives (e.g., provider training and continuing education).

Within the *Collaborative Impact* approach, First 5 Placer seeks to strengthen partnerships with and across providers in Placer County. Based on the 2023 First 5 Placer funded partner survey, First 5 Placer successfully made progress toward this aim by strengthening their relationship with funded partners and the relationships among funded partners. First 5 Placer provided a range of technical assistance activities that funded partners found helpful including distributing a monthly newsletter, facilitating opportunities for funded partners to connect with other funded partners, collecting and reporting data, delivering trainings for funded partners, and linking funded partners to resources. Additionally, First 5 Placer contributed to funded partners’ organizational capacity and sustainability by supporting them with improving their community relevance, their ability to improve programming and partnerships, their internal operations, access to other funding, and ensuring they had enough funding to implement high quality services.

Closing Considerations

The evaluation findings show First 5 Placer made strides toward achieving their strategic goals during 2022-2023. Funded partners employed collective impact strategies closely aligned with the four targeted investment areas (i.e., maternal and child health, oral health, early literacy, and family strengthening), were successful in reaching their priority populations, and made positive changes in the lives of children and families. While the data presented in this report validates the significance of activities implemented by First 5 Placer and funded partners, areas of continued opportunity also exist. The evaluation findings inform two key considerations for First 5 Placer moving forward:

► **Systemic barriers may make it difficult to fully achieve strategic plan goals.** Acknowledging the pivotal role of systemic barriers is paramount when it comes to considering the possibilities for the role and impact the Commission and its funded partners have in supporting families. This is especially pertinent given the evaluation findings that highlights the positive impact of funded partners adjacent to continued opportunities in the areas of oral, child, and maternal health.

- **Oral health.** Research¹¹ shows that some of the key facilitators to good oral health among low-income families includes programs that aim to increase oral health literacy, access non-dental related healthcare services, and community-based initiatives - all of which are currently offered by First 5 Placer funded partners. However, significant barriers to accessing dental care continue to exist in some parts of Placer County - including in the Tahoe Truckee community where no dental care providers accept Medi-Cal Dental. While it is important to continue to invest in preventative services for families in these areas, it is important to note that rates of children going to the dentist will likely be lower than other more resourced communities.
- **Child and maternal health.** Extensive research¹² underscores the primary obstacles to early prenatal care predominately stem from structural barriers such as lack of health insurance, transportation, and childcare. While some First 5 Placer pregnant individuals reported experiencing those barriers, others reported challenges that may be more addressable by funded partners such as increasing awareness of how to access services, support with scheduling appointments, and providing information about the benefits of early prenatal care. Continuing to invest in programs like home visits, healthcare education and navigation, support finding a medical home, and Promotores services can continue to have a positive impact on child and maternal health outcomes. However - similar to oral health outcomes - rates of early prenatal care will likely continue to fluctuate over the years given the existing structural barriers.

► **Continuing to use a collective impact approach will help support families and funded partners long term.** In addressing the intricate needs of families with young children, a collective impact approach is a pivotal strategy, uniting supports situated across various sectors to create a cohesive and synergistic framework for service delivery and family assistance. Research¹³ emphasizes the need to take this holistic approach in helping families navigate intersecting and contextual challenges. First 5 Placer has begun to successfully implement this approach including filling technical assistance needs among funded partners, serving as a convener, and establishing shared practices for data collection and reporting, all of which funded partners have found useful. Additionally, data in this report highlight

¹¹ Lieneck, C., Connelly, E., Ireland, D., Jefferson, A., Jones, J., & Breidel, N. (2023). Facilitators and Barriers to Oral Healthcare for Women and Children with Low Socioeconomic Status in the United States: A Narrative Review. *Healthcare (Basel)*, 11(16), 2248-. <https://doi.org/10.3390/healthcare11162248>

¹² Bellerose, M., Rodriguez, M., & Vivier, P. M. (2022). A systematic review of the qualitative literature on barriers to high-quality prenatal and postpartum care among low-income women. *Health Services Research*, 57(4), 775–785. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1475-6773.14008>

¹³ Biglan, A., Elfner, K., Garbacz, S. A., Komro, K., Prinz, R. J., Weist, M. D., Wilson, D. K., & Zarling, A. (2020). A Strategic Plan for Strengthening America's Families: A Brief from the Coalition of Behavioral Science Organizations. *Clinical Child and Family Psychology Review*, 23(2), 153–175. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10567-020-00318-0>

funded partners offered a range of services that reflect elements of collective impact. Continuing to prioritize this approach – especially in the context of reduced revenues - is critical and can shape the opportunities for improving outcomes and increasing funded partner sustainability long term.