



September 19, 2008

**Statement from Kris Perry, Executive Director,
First 5 California
Regarding First 5 California Project Legacy**

Due to declining revenues, First 5 California can no longer fund programs at their current levels. We anticipated this situation and are prepared to address it in a fair and equitable manner.

Our aim is to fulfill the objectives of our strategic plan, be responsible stewards of tax dollars and help ensure all children enter school ready to achieve their greatest potential. To accomplish this, we created First 5 California Project Legacy to serve as a “Roadmap to the Future” by establishing two to three Signature Programs and innovative Pilot Projects for children 0 to 5 and their families.

Project Legacy will leverage the knowledge of a broad and diverse array of stakeholders through a Workgroup that will develop criteria for these future programs and improve the way First 5 California meets the needs of children 0 to 5. This criteria will guide all future funding decisions for new programs.

While First 5 California’s current matching grant programs will continue through their scheduled expiration dates, at this time there are no plans to provide gap or transition funding to continue programs beyond their previously-established end dates. It is likely that no program in its current configuration will be continued.

As a partner, we appreciate your participation, creativity and forward thinking in helping us assess current programs and make decisions for the future.

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