



First 5 Strategic Plan

Civic Engagement Committee recommendations

November 10, 2004

Goal 1: Early Care and Education

Children start kindergarten with a love of learning and the tools and resources they need to be successful.

Additional emphasis: Work with families to encourage their young child's learning.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Involve families unaffiliated with a child care center or agency in their young child's learning.
2. Instill the importance of parent involvement in pre-school education

STRATEGIES:

1. Provide parents who are unaffiliated with agencies or child care centers with access to early learning programs such as HIPPIY or Raising a Reader using existing family friendly places like Parks and Recreation or family friendly centers.
2. Make _ day care or flexible care available.
3. Support parent coops.
4. Provide parents with education and support to help their children become more involved in their preschools and become effective advocates for high quality and appropriate child care.

Goal 2: Children's Health

Children's healthy development is supported by families and communities

Additional emphasis: Reaching parents who are isolated, not affiliated with an agency (Ties into the commission's second objective of informing parents about healthy development of young children and appropriate health care).

STRATEGIES:

1. Highlight a developmental value such as nutrition; reduced television viewing; etc using campaigns and public service announcements.
2. Provide health information in the First 5 Parent Kit and ensure wide distribution.
3. Promote better relationships between pediatricians/ nurse practitioners and caregivers in which the medical provider can be seen as a primary resource or referral agent for parenting skills and advice.

Goal 3: Family Support

Families have easy access to community-based resources and information needed to promote their child's development.

Added Emphasis: Bring isolated parents into the fold by promoting activities that are fun and educationally based.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Promote activities that are fun and bring families together and which are educationally based.
2. Reach out to kinship families and fathers.