



The First 5 years.
Make them count.

First 5
response

January 30, 2006

Dear Colleagues,

On January 26, 2006, members of my management team and I met with Patricia Gardner, Executive Director of Silicon Valley Non-Profits, and we have met with other agencies, to listen to concerns brought forth regarding the Community Partnerships and Full Service Demonstration Sites RFQ. As we have stated from the beginning, FIRST 5 is committed to supporting our partners throughout the RFQ application process. So when concerns or issues surface, our role is to listen, discuss and provide clarification, with the hope that clarity will be of assistance as you prepare the RFQ application. The following information is provided to respond to your concerns with the hope of providing greater clarity as we move forward in our RFQ process.

Matching Funds Requirement. FIRST 5 is requiring the matching funds to ensure our goal of sustainability is achieved. However, we are willing to take into consideration applicants' demonstrated efforts to explore any and all potential matches.

Partnership Applications. FIRST 5 is encouraging Partnership applications, and understands that these applications require more planning and interagency discussion and agreements. FIRST 5 will respect and honor Partnership applications and their proposed membership. If the Review Panel determines that a Partnership application is missing a quality core service category, based on community needs, or recommends enhancement to a proposed Network of Services, FIRST 5 would enter into discussion with the Partnership's Lead Agency regarding how best to address this need, including reasonable funding and service considerations.

Amount of funds estimated per service category on Addendum 2 and anticipated number of children to be served on Addendum 3 of the RFQ. As noted on Addendum 2 and Addendum 3 of the RFQ, the amounts of funding and numbers of children targeted to serve are planning estimates. Applicants should propose the amounts necessary to perform the appropriate services. The amount of funding and number of children to be served is negotiable.

Can an agency that is not part of a Partnership Application apply to provide services? Yes, as long as the agency had submitted a Letter of Intent on time. We have always encouraged agencies to build upon existing FIRST 5 Partnerships that have been funded over the past 4 and half years; however, if an agency is not applying through a Partnership Application, but wants to provide one of the service

categories, we encourage the agency to become a **single qualified service provider**. Please see page 25 of the RFQ under Service Categories for further explanation.

Reimbursement for Partnership members' time commitment during the Planning and Development Phase of April 06-June 06.

It has been FIRST 5's intention to honor and respect the time of the selected funded applicants to develop the implementation and service delivery plans. As stated in the RFQ, page 34, FIRST 5 is working to develop our Community of Learning Institute. It is the hope that all funded partners will benefit from the learning and implementation planning time this Institute will offer. Our funded partners who attend and participate in this important aspect of the RFQ will be compensated for their planning time.

In addition, Partnership members who are coming to the table to offer their services to children as part of the Network of Services (non-funded agencies and interested community members) will be offered training opportunities, and FIRST 5 will consider some form of compensation for their participation in the Partnership.

Finally, we are aware partnership development takes time and committed energy. We applaud your efforts and willingness to work together to develop and provide a network of services, and support focusing on our youngest children and their families. We are aware of the time you have invested in creating a vibrant network of services. It is because of our recognition of the time and effort you have dedicated to this complex process that FIRST 5 is dedicated to provide as much support as we possibly can to ensure our partnerships launch successfully. This RFQ is the next generation of funding the Commission has committed to increase our broad, long-term community effort to make certain that the developmental needs of children through age 5 are met.

Respectfully,

Jolene Smith, Executive Director
FIRST 5 Santa Clara County



The First 5 years.
Make them count.

January 30, 2006

Dear Colleagues,

On January 26, 2006, members of my management team and I met with Patricia Gardner, Executive Director of Silicon Valley Non-Profits, and we have met with other agencies, to listen to concerns brought forth regarding the Community Partnerships and Full Service Demonstration Sites RFQ. As we have stated from the beginning, FIRST 5 is committed to supporting our partners throughout the RFQ application process. So when concerns or issues surface, our role is to listen, discuss and provide clarification, with the hope that clarity will be of assistance as you prepare the RFQ application. The following information is provided to respond to your concerns with the hope of providing greater clarity as we move forward in our RFQ process.

Matching Funds Requirement. FIRST 5 is requiring the matching funds to ensure our goal of sustainability is achieved. However, we are willing to take into consideration applicants' demonstrated efforts to explore any and all potential matches.

Partnership Applications. FIRST 5 is encouraging Partnership applications, and understands that these applications require more planning and interagency discussion and agreements. FIRST 5 will respect and honor Partnership applications and their proposed membership. If the Review Panel determines that a Partnership application is missing a quality core service category, based on community needs, or recommends enhancement to a proposed Network of Services, FIRST 5 would enter into discussion with the Partnership's Lead Agency regarding how best to address this need, including reasonable funding and service considerations.

Amount of funds estimated per service category on Addendum 2 and anticipated number of children to be served on Addendum 3 of the RFQ. As noted on Addendum 2 and Addendum 3 of the RFQ, the amounts of funding and numbers of children targeted to serve are planning estimates. Applicants should propose the amounts necessary to perform the appropriate services. The amount of funding and number of children to be served is negotiable.

Can an agency that is not part of a Partnership Application apply to provide services? Yes, as long as the agency had submitted a Letter of Intent on time. We have always encouraged agencies to build upon existing FIRST 5 Partnerships that have been funded over the past 4 and half years; however, if an agency is not applying through a Partnership Application, but wants to provide one of the service

categories, we encourage the agency to become a **single qualified service provider**. Please see page 25 of the RFQ under Service Categories for further explanation.

Reimbursement for Partnership members' time commitment during the Planning and Development Phase of April 06-June 06.

It has been FIRST 5's intention to honor and respect the time of the selected funded applicants to develop the implementation and service delivery plans. As stated in the RFQ, page 34, FIRST 5 is working to develop our Community of Learning Institute. It is the hope that all funded partners will benefit from the learning and implementation planning time this Institute will offer. Our funded partners who attend and participate in this important aspect of the RFQ will be compensated for their planning time.

In addition, Partnership members who are coming to the table to offer their services to children as part of the Network of Services (non-funded agencies and interested community members) will be offered training opportunities, and FIRST 5 will consider some form of compensation for their participation in the Partnership.

Finally, we are aware partnership development takes time and committed energy. We applaud your efforts and willingness to work together to develop and provide a network of services, and support focusing on our youngest children and their families. We are aware of the time you have invested in creating a vibrant network of services. It is because of our recognition of the time and effort you have dedicated to this complex process that FIRST 5 is dedicated to provide as much support as we possibly can to ensure our partnerships launch successfully. This RFQ is the next generation of funding the Commission has committed to increase our broad, long-term community effort to make certain that the developmental needs of children through age 5 are met.

Respectfully,

Jolene Smith, Executive Director
FIRST 5 Santa Clara County



"Naomi Nakano-Matsumoto"
<naomin@cupertinocommunit
yservices.org>

02/03/2006 08:54 AM

Please respond to
<naomin@cupertinocommunit
services.org>

To <Sunshine.Borelli@bos.co.santa-clara.ca.us>

cc

bcc

Subject FW: SVCN LETTER REGARDING FIRST 5 and ACTION
REQUEST

Naomi N. Nakano-Matsumoto, LCSW
Executive Director
Cupertino Community Services, Inc.
10104 Vista Drive
Cupertino, CA 95014
408.255.8033 ext. 301
naomin@cupertinocommunityservices.org

Cupertino Community Services
"PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE"

www.cupertinocommunityservices.org

-----Original Message-----

From: Patricia Gardner [mailto:patriciag@svcn.org]

Sent: Wednesday, February 01, 2006 11:34 AM

Subject: SVCN LETTER REGARDING FIRST 5 and ACTION REQUEST

SVCN!

February 1, 2006

Memo to SVCN Agencies and those nonprofits in the First 5 system of care

Over the last couple of months we have become keenly aware of agency concerns regarding the FIRST 5 RFQ application and process. Over 30 nonprofits have contacted SVCN either through lengthy emails, (actually essays not just emails) phone calls or meetings to discuss problems you all are encountering in the FIRST 5 funding process. The issues have been emotionally charged and filled with frustration by agencies trying to figure out, interpret and meet the requirements of the RFQ to serve the targeted population of children and their families.

SVCN has met with Jolene and key management staff to discuss our concerns and to seek quick resolution to some of the overriding nonprofit issues. FIRST 5 staff have listened, responded and worked with us, thoughtfully as we have tried to clarify, simplify, working through this RFQ processes.

SVCN is very serious about the problems faced by our nonprofit community in this RFQ process. We will be