

Goals and Strategic Priorities for 2019-2024

First 5 California has established four “Program Result Areas” for local County Commissions to use to standardize their reporting of expenditure and service data to the State. By doing this, Lake County’s data can be aggregated with data from the other 57 counties in California demonstrating our collective impact. **The First 5 Lake Commission has reviewed the priorities of our community and the Strengthening Families Protective Factors Framework and decided upon the goals, strategic priorities, and desired outcomes that follow, categorizing them within First 5 CA’s program result areas.** The Commission’s target population for desired outcomes are all families with children prenatally through age five, with a desire to focus special attention on those in crisis or in potentially isolating situations for greater equity. Examples include but are not limited to: *children with special needs, non-English-speakers, families living in poverty, families living in remote areas, foster/resource families and children within foster care, single parents, parents commuting out of county for work, families with mental health disorders or substance abuse issues, and homeless families.*

IMPROVED FAMILY FUNCTIONING

Goal #1: Increased access to parenting education, meeting the diverse needs of all Lake County parents of children 0-to-5.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Focused attention on parents in potentially isolating circumstances and parents in crisis situations. Increased outreach prenatally and in the first year of life or at the earliest possible resource connection.

DESIRED OUTCOMES:

Parenting knowledge and skills are enhanced to support children’s healthy development and social-emotional wellbeing.

Goal #2: Family networks of support are strengthened and enriching social connections are increased for all Lake County families with children 0-to-5

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Focused efforts on serving families in potentially isolating circumstances and families in crisis situations. Increased outreach prenatally and in the first year of life or at the earliest possible resource connection.

DESIRED OUTCOMES:

Families with young children are socially connected – developing and maintaining positive relationships that provide concrete, emotional, informational and spiritual support.

IMPROVED CHILD DEVELOPMENT

Goal #3: Increased access to high-quality, developmentally appropriate, trauma-informed child care and early education for all children 0-to-5.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Focused attention on: 1) Improving the quality of existing child care and early education settings. 2) Providing support and information about high quality practices for new sites as they open, 3) Providing training to educators in Protective Factors, parent engagement, trauma-informed care, cultural competency and special needs.

DESIRED OUTCOMES:

Increased academic and social-emotional school readiness for all Lake County children.
Families are increasingly educated about and supported in fostering interactions that help children develop the abilities to communicate clearly, recognize and regulate emotions, and establish and maintain relationships.

IMPROVED CHILD HEALTH

Goal #4: Increased access to health and therapeutic services benefitting all children prenatally through age five.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Focused attention on prenatal and perinatal care, universal screening for developmental delays and timely referrals for early intervention, physical and behavioral health services.

DESIRED OUTCOMES:

Children are born healthy and experience optimal physical, behavioral and developmental health.

IMPROVED SYSTEMS OF CARE

Goal #5: Increased access to an integrated, strategic and user-friendly delivery system that is continually adapting to enable our community to give all children the best possible start in life.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Focused attention on reducing fear and mistrust, and normalizing service seeking, through common messaging, collaboration, promotion of the Protective Factors for Families and Communities, trauma-informed care and cultural sensitivity, and movement toward shared common indicators of success.

DESIRED OUTCOMES:

Families receive needed services from trauma-informed, culturally competent, collaboratively networked service providers.

The reduction of child abuse and neglect and the increase of family resilience become common indicators of success.