## Board Inquiry Form

### Board Member
- Carbajal
- Wolf
- Farr
- Gray
- Centeno

### Request/Question:
How can the County use First 5 funding to provide non-direct medical expenses to children to children ages 0-5?

### Report Back by:
Pat Wheatley, First 5 Director

### Response:
The First 5 or Proposition 10 funding can be utilized to fund non-direct medical expenses and program services for children ages 0 to five. Currently several programs are proposed within the 09/10 budget: Early mental health and special needs $500,000, Healthy Kids Program $200,000, and Family Case Management Service $826,000, which directly supports child welfare services referrals. In the context of the existing budget proposed (pages D-492 to D-496), approximately **$2.8** million can be considered discretionary monies which *could be* allocated by the First 5 Commission to fund programs for non-direct medical expenses for children ages 0-5 with the caveat that such programs meet the guidelines of The California Children and Families Act of 1998.

It should, however, be noted that the First 5 Commission grant funding process and notice of allocation to program providers occurred in April and May with final votes of the Commission on May 28th. Therefore, for the 2009-10 fiscal year the First 5 Commission has made one year funding recommendations for the disbursement of the **$2.8** million in discretionary funding as well as the additional $2 million in foundation monies leveraged as a result of these funds. All funds are scheduled for disbursement in July. This funding is provided to contract agencies as well as the County via individual program contracts.

**Future Funding:** Primarily requests for funding of programs with First 5/Prop 10 funding are considered during its strategic planning/programming process. The upcoming strategic planning process for fiscal year 2010-11 and the upcoming program planning period of 2011-2016 begins on June 15, 2009 with the initiation of the new First 5 Commission Strategic Plan to be completed in September 2009. Therefore specific requests for future program funding needs should be immediately communicated to the First 5 Commission for consideration as part of the overall direction of the Strategic Plan and future application, granting and allocations processes.