



It's All About the Kids

August 12, 2010

KAREN ZIEBRON

District 1

Honorable Janet Gaard
Yolo Superior Court, Dept. 15
1100 Main Street, Suite 300
Woodland, CA 95695

DONITA STROMGREN

District 2

RE: 2009/10 Grand Jury Final Report

SUZANNE ANDERSON

District 3

Dear Judge Gaard,

RICK BAKER, MD

District 4

The Yolo County Grand Jury visited First 5 Yolo Children and Families Commission on January 21, 2010. On June 28, 2010, we received a copy of their report. As requested in the Grand Jury's report, I am responding to their findings and recommendation.

SUE HEITMAN, MSW

District 5

The Grand Jury listed four findings, F-1 through F-4, and made one recommendation: *The First 5 Board of Commissioners should resist the state's attempts to put Proposition 10 funds into its General Fund.* First 5 Yolo agrees with all four findings and the recommendation listed on page 24.

HELEN THOMSON

Board of Supervisors

The Commission will continue to prioritize protecting Proposition 10 funds for the purpose in which they were intended to be used: To improve the health and well being of children ages 0-5 and their families. With great energy, the First 5 Yolo Commissioners have formally opposed each attempt by the legislature to redirect Prop 10 funds back to the state's general fund. Commissioners and the Yolo County Board of Supervisors have sent letters to legislators informing them of the impact that reducing or eliminating these funds would have on our local children. Commissioners have garnered support from members of the Board of Supervisors, parents of children who benefit from First 5 funds and our local grantees which provide desperately needed services; all of whom have testified at CA State Senate and Assembly hearings to educate legislators of the need to keep these precious funds at the local level.

KIM SUDERMAN, LCSW

Department of Alcohol, Drug & Mental Health

PAM MILLER, MSW

Department of Employment & Social Services

JORGE AYALA, Ed.D.

Yolo County Office of Education

We will continue to do everything we can to protect Prop 10 funds while working within the confines of the law.

JULIE GALLELO, MPH

Executive Director

The First 5 Yolo Commissioners acknowledge the hard work of the Grand Jury and thank them for their interest in First 5 and the continuation of services for the county's youngest residents.

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Respectfully,

Julie Gallelo
Executive Director

cc: First 5 Yolo Commissioners