First 5 Yuba
Mini-Grant Program Guidelines
2020/2021

Applications Accepted:
September 1, 2020 through February 4, 2021
Or until the current fiscal year’s budgeted
mini-grant funds are depleted
Application Terms

A. Purpose

The purpose of the Mini Grant Program is to encourage and involve members of the community to support the well-being of Yuba County children by enhancing existing community resources that aim to improve the health and development of infants, toddlers or preschoolers so that they enter kindergarten ready to learn. Awards provide community members, agencies and childcare providers a small grant for a short-term project or service, awards are not intended for program sustainability. Please refer to the Commission’s 2016-2021 Strategic Plan for details.

For fiscal year 2020-2021, The Commission has allocated $40,000 for community mini-grants, which will be divided in the following ways:

1. $25,000 will be allocated specifically to community agencies, non-profits, organizations and other small businesses serving Yuba County Residents. (hereinafter referred to as “Community Agency”)
2. $15,000 will be allocated for childcare providers operating a physical location in Yuba County including licensed family childcare homes and center based childcare. (hereinafter referred to as “Childcare Provider”)

Individual funding requests shall not be less than $1,000 and shall not exceed $4,000 unless approved by The Commission. Should funds not fully be expended in either applicant category (i.e., Community Agency, Childcare Provider) by February 25, 2021 then short-term projects may be considered.

B. Background

In January 1999, the Yuba County Board of Supervisors established the Yuba County Children and Families Commission following November 1998 voter approval of Proposition 10. In 1999, the Board of Supervisors completed its appointments to the seven-member Commission.

The Commission is committed to blending Proposition 10 funds, wherever possible, with other funds to form partnerships that maximize services and minimize program duplication and administrative costs. In doing so, the Commission is advancing its mission of “promoting the development and well-being of children 0 through 5.” It is the Commission’s vision that “all of Yuba County’s children will thrive in supportive, safe, nurturing, and loving environments; are healthy, eager, and ready learners; and will become productive well-adjusted members of society.”
C. **Eligibility**

Individuals, groups, government agencies, community-based organizations, faith-based organizations, licensed childcare providers, associations, health care organizations, corporations, non-profit and for-profit organizations can apply for up to one (1) grant per agency per fiscal year (July 1- June 30). All potential applicants must either serve residents in Yuba County and/or have a physical office location (if Childcare Providers) in order to be eligible to apply. Applicants must attend a live webinar or view the recorded meeting to be eligible.

The following days/times are scheduled live pre-application orientation meetings:

- September 3, 2020 at 1:30 P.M.: register here
- September 3, 2020 at 6:00 P.M. register here
- To request access to a recorded webinar please email Robin Timoszyk at rtimoszyk@co.yuba.ca.us or call 530-749-4959

Please allow for up to 1-2 hours to attend or view this webinar. Interested parties may attend either meeting but the evening meeting will focus on the specific needs of childcare providers. Agencies not in good standing with the Commission are considered ineligible.

D. **Application Process**

All potential applicants must attend a **mandatory application orientation meeting** prior to submitting an application.

Please contact the office for additional information on dates and times. Applications will be accepted until the current fiscal year’s budgeted mini-grant funds are depleted or until February 4, 2021. An application submission does not guarantee award of funding. Please allow for up to sixty (60) days to review, score and process the application. All notifications related to the submission and review will be sent to the address listed on the application submitted.

E. **Project Narrative**

Please respond to the following questions in a clear, thorough, and thoughtful manner. Organize your Project Narrative in the same manner as listed below, with the headings followed by your response. Responses **should not** exceed three (3) pages in length (excluding the Itemized Budget Exhibit B), must be at least 11-point font, on white letter size paper with minimum margins width of 0.5 and line spacing no more than 1.5.

a) **Applicant’s Background** – Briefly describe the mission and background of the agency/provider that will administer this grant. Provide the Commission with specific
examples on existing activities or interventions supported by you or your agency that clearly exemplifies an understanding of the needs of children prenatal through age five in Yuba County. Describe how the agency, or services provided, align with The Commission’s Vision and Mission.

b) **Proposal** – Briefly describe the problem, need, or issue this project will address, using data and clear examples related to social, physical and/or economic factors. Clearly state the desired outcome of this project and how this project will support The Commission’s [2016-2021 Strategic Plan](#) goals. Define how this project or intervention will expand services currently provided (e.g., # of children served), or enhance existing resources (e.g., new play structures, new educational tools/resources etc.) to fill the service gap addressed. Include the target population served, the number of children that will directly benefit, the site/setting in which interventions may take place (classroom, home, parks) and the geographic area within Yuba County the intervention will take place. Consider and identify other partners/providers or community organizations/agencies which you may collaborate with or who may directly or indirectly benefit from your intervention. Lastly, is this project sustainable and/or what are the lasting effects of your intervention?

c) **Evaluation** - Describe in detail what this project or intervention will accomplish. Include how success of the project will be measured and describe the quantity and/or quality of change that will occur. Include information on how records, data, or numbers will be kept for future reporting.

d) **Budget Narrative & Itemized Budget** – Briefly describe the Community Agency’s or Childcare Provider’s financial capacity or experience to administer this grant and related activities. Clearly, state the amount requested to execute this project, and in a narrative explain how all costs are tied to specific activities or interventions outlined in the proposal narrative. Include other leveraged funding sources such as in-kind costs (costs incurred by business but not accounted for in the project budget (e.g., staff time, personal expenses, utilities etc.), donations and other funding sources that will support the proposed project or intervention. Attach a detailed Itemized Budget (Exhibit B) with your application and clearly distinguish proposed costs in the budget narrative and leveraged funding. See sample template on page 8, Itemized Budget -Exhibit B.

F. **Decision Making Process**

Projects will be evaluated and scored on a 50-point scale by members of the established Advisory
Committee. The Advisory Committee will use a universal scoring matrix for each of the applicants groups including: 1. **Community Agency** (community agency, non-profit, organization, other small business), or 2. **Childcare Providers** (family childcare home, center-based childcare). Advisory Committee Members will be given all applicant materials and review applicant groups separately to ensure alignment with funding allocations and accurately reflect applicant capacity. The detailed scoring matrix for Community Agencies and Childcare Providers can be found on the [Commission's website](#). Advisory Committee Members have the ability to recommend funding levels different than that requested and in alignment with project proposals. Reviewer feedback will be accessible to all applicants. Reviewer in identification will remain anonymous.

The Commission will only review applicants with passing score (30/50 points) to determine if they meet the needs of the community as identified in the 2016-2021 Strategic Plan, and support the Commission’s Vision and Mission. The Commission may award a reduced amount in the interests of good stewardship and sound public policy. The Commission is the sole and final authority regarding the approval or disapproval of applications with a passing score of 30/50 and the conditions under which they are funded. Commission staff will evaluate applications to determine all legal contracting requirements are met and ensure proposals do not supplant current sources of funding and provide comments to the Commission for review thereof. Applicants with a score less than 30 will not be considered for funding. The Commission reserves the right to reject any and all applications and to waive informalities or irregularities. The Commission will not hear appeals.

**G. Authorization to Purchase**

An applicant awarded funding under this application process is not authorized to purchase materials, equipment, or supplies until an agreement with the Commission has been executed. **Awarded funds must be spent and used for projects allocated and awarded in the same fiscal year by May 31, 2021, NO EXCEPTIONS.**

**H. Responsibilities, if Awarded**

Reporting on the use of Proposition 10 funds is legally required by the State of California, Health and Safety Code Section 130100-130155. The Commission requires that all grantees must do the following:

- Acknowledge the support of First 5 Yuba County Children and Families Commission in its advertising or place of business.
- Acknowledge a portion of grant funds will be awarded on a reimbursement basis.
- Keep careful records, including receipts or documents of authorized expenses.
- Comply with the application terms, program guidelines, agreement and insurance
requirements.
• Agree to consult with First 5 staff and consultants when required.
• Submit a final invoice and report to Commission office no later than June 15, 2021.
• Return any unspent funds to the Commission no later than July 15, 2021.

I. Submission

Complete the application after attending/viewing the mandatory application meeting. It is best to have thoroughly read the application terms and agreement prior to attending. This time will also serve to answer any questions you have related to this grant. To be considered for funding, a complete application packet must be submitted which includes the following:

• Application (Exhibit A);
• Project Narrative; and
• Itemized Budget (Exhibit B).

Application materials are available at www.first5yuba.org or the First 5 Yuba administrative office located at 1114 Yuba St. Suite 201, Marysville CA, 95901. Submit one signed, hard copy or electronic copy, to the Commission’s administrative office (address below), or email; first5@co.yuba.ca.us or rtimoszyk@co.yuba.ca.us. Applications will not be accepted after February 4, 2021.

First 5 Yuba County
Children and Families Commission
1114 Yuba Street, Suite 201
Marysville, CA 95901
EXHIBIT B
MINI GRANT APPLICATION
ITEMIZED BUDGET

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Name</th>
<th>Sample Budget for Illustration Purposes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Category</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Salaries</td>
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<td>Total Salaries</td>
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<td>Services &amp; Supplies</td>
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<td>Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum</td>
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<td>Travel/Training</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Services &amp; Supplies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Program Budget</td>
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*Other Funding - Please describe additional funding sources in the Budget Narrative portion of the Proposal*
**First 5 Yuba 2020/21 Mini Grant Timeline**

- **August 20, 2020**
  - Release Mini Grant Funds

- **August 20, 2020 – February 1, 2021**
  - Staff meets with applicants, accepts & reviews submissions
  - Advisory Committee scores applications

- **October 2020 – February 2021**
  - Applications presented to the Commission for funding decision

- **October 2020 – May 31, 2021**
  - Grant recipients complete their projects

**Application Deadlines**

- Oct. 1, 2020 for October 27 Commission Meeting
- Nov. 12, 2020 for December 17 Commission Meeting
- Feb. 4, 2021 for February 25 Commission Meeting

**June 15, 2021**

- Final project report, invoice and supporting documents due to First 5 Yuba

**July 15, 2020**

- Unused funds returned to First 5 Yuba

- The maximum amount allocated for the fiscal year is $40,000
- Individual grants may be no less than $1,000 and no more than $4,000