



FIRST 5
TRINITY COUNTY

Local Evaluation Brief
2017-2018



FIRST 5 TRINITY COUNTY

The First 5 Trinity County Children and Families Commission makes a number of investments in community programs to support the healthy development of young children and their families. It has a strategic plan to guide its efforts and conducts regular evaluation to measure its impact.

This evaluation brief describes the reach of Commission investments for families participating in First 5 sponsored services during fiscal year 2017-2018. Data was collected on children and families who participated in services between July 1, 2017, and June 30, 2018.

INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK

Vision

Trinity County's children are born and raised in a safe, healthy, and nurturing environment so that they grow up healthy, prepared to learn, and eager to accept opportunities to reach their full potential.

Mission

First 5 Trinity County convenes, supports, and partners with others to strengthen families, communities, and systems of services and supports so that all Trinity County children are prepared for kindergarten and success in school and life.

Programs

First 5 Trinity invests in community partners to realize its strategic plan. In FY 2017-2018, the following programs were considered primary investments:

- School Readiness Playgroups
- Parent Co-Op Nursery School
- Home Visiting for Parents of Newborns
- Children's Community Garden

Additionally, First 5 supports smaller community projects to include water safety programs, a car seat distribution project, a community learning garden and a summer food program.

SERVICE HIGHLIGHTS

- 62** Children attended school readiness playgroups
- 16** Children participated in nursery school instruction and play
- 226** Children received nutrition education and participated in gardening activities
- 93** Children participated in swim lessons
- 26** Parents of newborns obtained home visiting services
- 112** Parents received car seat safety supports

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

Commission investments are intended to achieve the following outcomes:

- ✓ Children enter kindergarten ready to learn.
- ✓ Children live in healthy home environments, free from safety and risks.
- ✓ Families have access to family support services and resources.
- ✓ Children understand where food comes from, are able to make healthy food choices, and become better nourished.

TRINITY COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION SCHOOL READINESS PROGRAM

Program Description

First 5 Trinity partners with the Trinity County Office of Education (TCOE) to provide pre-K programs throughout the county. The pre-K school readiness program offers structured playgroups using a nationally recognized curriculum aimed at preparing kids for the academic, social, and emotional rigors of kindergarten. The school readiness program also provides health-related supports to ensure kids are healthy upon kindergarten entry. Lastly, the program offers parenting and family literacy activities to support parents and caregivers as their child’s first teacher.

Who was Served?

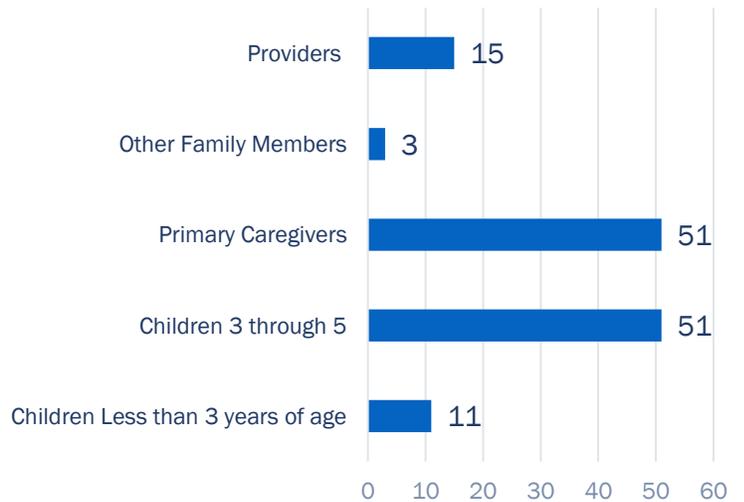
Program participants included children prenatal through five as well as their family members.

Between July 1, 2017 and June 30, 2018 the program served a total of:

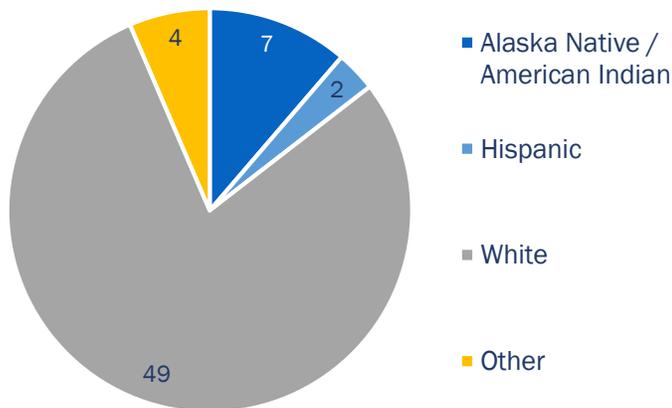
62 children ages 0 through 5

51 parents and caregivers

As indicated in the chart to the right, the majority of children served were between the ages of 3 through 5 years old (51 or 82% of all children served). Children less than 3 years old made up a smaller percentage of the total number served (11 or 18%).



What was the Profile of Children Served? N=62



The majority of the children served were white (49 or 79%), followed by Alaska Native/American Indian (7 or 11%).

All children served spoke English as their primary language.

What Type of Services Were Provided?

Playgroups offer young children the opportunity to build their social, emotional, and language skills through active engagement such as play, snack, and story time with their peers.

The following number of playgroup sessions were held between July 1, 2017, and June 30, 2018:



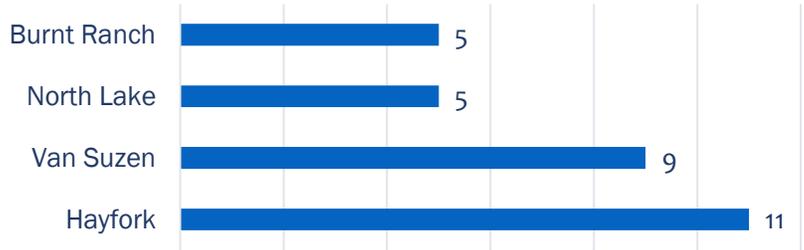
TRINITY COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION SCHOOL READINESS PROGRAM

Program Satisfaction

The TCOE School Readiness program collects parent satisfaction data at program conclusion to assess the extent that the program provided services that were responsive to the needs of young children.

A total of 30 families participated in the parent satisfaction survey.

Number of Surveys Collected



The bulk of families who completed a parent satisfaction survey were either satisfied or very satisfied with the program as demonstrated in the results below.

N=30

- How satisfied are you with the overall quality of this program?
- How satisfied are you with how the program promotes your child's learning & development?
- How satisfied are you with program meeting individual needs of your child?
- How satisfied are you with the daily routine and activities and your child's program?
- How satisfied are you with the environment of the classroom in your child's program?
- How satisfied are you with the culturally-diverse materials/activities in your child's program?
- How satisfied are you with the nutrition in your child's program?
- How satisfied are you with the health and safety procedures in your child's program?

	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Not Satisfied
How satisfied are you with the overall quality of this program?	83% (25)	17% (5)	-
How satisfied are you with how the program promotes your child's learning & development?	97% (29)	3% (1)	-
How satisfied are you with program meeting individual needs of your child?	87% (26)	13% (4)	-
How satisfied are you with the daily routine and activities and your child's program?	87% (26)	13% (4)	-
How satisfied are you with the environment of the classroom in your child's program?	87% (26)	13% (4)	-
How satisfied are you with the culturally-diverse materials/activities in your child's program?	63% (19)	30% (9)	3% (1)
How satisfied are you with the nutrition in your child's program?	73% (22)	17% (5)	10% (3)
How satisfied are you with the health and safety procedures in your child's program?	87% (26)	13% (4)	-

Family Feedback



HUMAN RESOURCE NETWORK WELCOME BABY PROGRAM

Program Description

The Welcome Baby Program, as operated by the Human Response Network, offers new parents a lifeline to support, information and community resources needed to raise healthy and happy children. New parents are visited in their home and offered a New Baby Bag which is full of information and items needed by new parents. During the home visit, a family advocate provides information about what to expect as a new parent, coaching about creating a safe home environment, and information about available community resources. After the initial home visit, family advocates return to the home at 3, 6, and 12 months to provide additional information and support. During one of these follow-up home visits, a developmental screening is completed to identify whether the child is at risk for a developmental delay.

Who was Served?

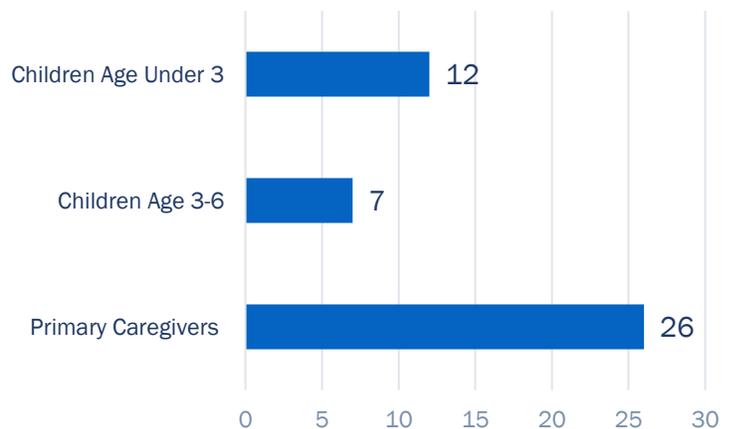
Program participants included children prenatal through five as well as their family members.

Between July 1, 2017, and June 30, 2018 the program served a total of:

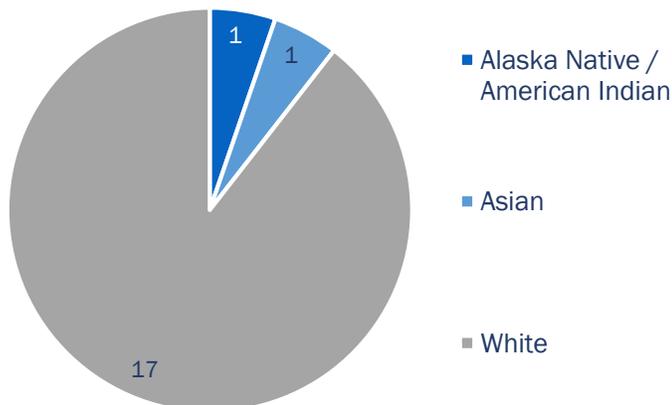
19 children ages 0 through 5

26 parents and caregivers

As indicated in the chart to the right, the majority of children served were under 3 years old (12 or 63% of all children served). Children younger than 3 years old made up a smaller percentage of the total number served (7 or 37%).



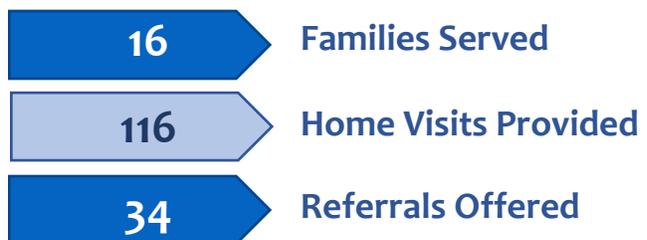
What was the Profile of Children Served? N=62



The majority of the children served were white (17 or 89%). All children served spoke English as their primary language.

What Type of Services Were Provided?

The following are highlights of services delivery that occurred between July 1, 2017 and June 30, 2018:



“The [program] is so welcoming and helpful, when you might be embarrassed to ask for help otherwise or just be too busy with a newborn. I think it is so awesome to have that personal attention so that you can feel more comfortable if you do need help with anything.”

Parent Participant

WEAVERVILLE PARENT NURSERY SCHOOL

Program Description

The Parent Nursery School program is a co-operative preschool program for children ages 2.5 – 5 years of age. The program offers education to young children to prepare them for successful kindergarten entry. Its focus is on developing children into happy, healthy, and emotionally equipped individuals. The program partners with parents to provide engaging, fun, interactive activities. It also provides support services, such as parent workshops, to support the whole family.

Who was Served?

Program participants included children prenatal through five as well as their family members.

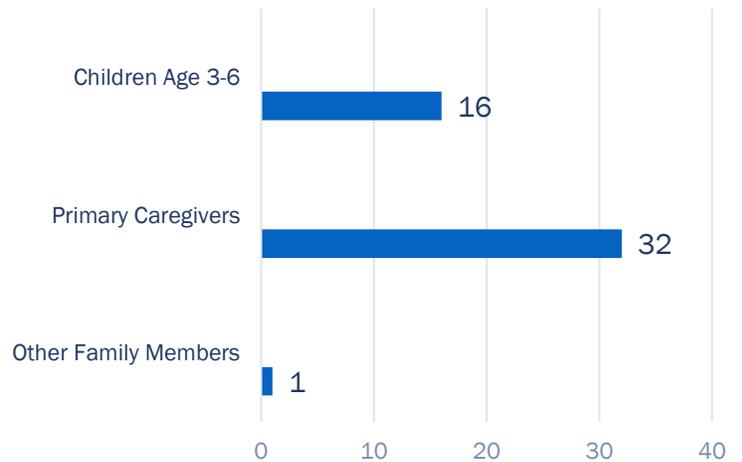
Between July 1, 2017 and June 30, 2018 the program served a total of:

16 children ages 0 through 5

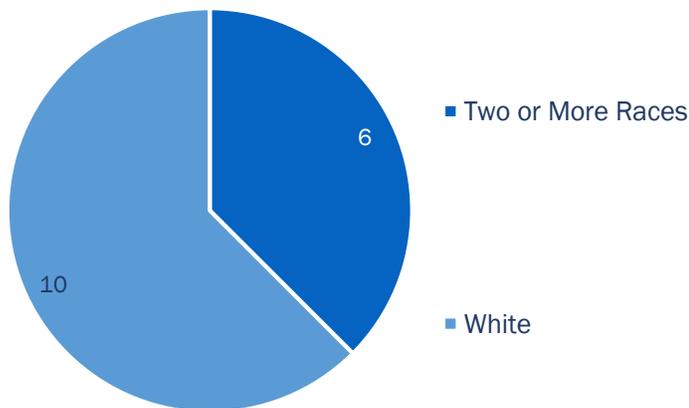
32 parents and caregivers

As indicated in the chart to the right, all of the children served were between the ages of 3 through 5 years old (51 or 82% of all children served).

In addition to the children served, a total of 32 parents were served by the program.



What was the Profile of Children Served? N=62

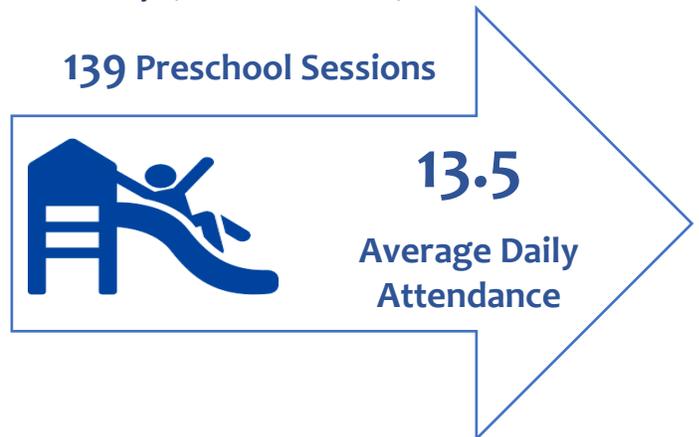


The majority of the children served were white (10 or 62%), followed by two or more races (6 or 38%).

All children served spoke English as their primary language.

What Type of Services Were Provided?

The following statistics represent services which were offered between July 1, 2017 and June 30, 2018:



In addition to the preschool sessions, the Parent Nursery School also partners with the Weaverville kindergarten classroom to support transitions. Each Parent Nursery School student visits the kindergarten classroom four times per year, participates in the Halloween parade, a fire drill, and has lunch in the school cafeteria.

WEAVERVILLE PARENT NURSERY SCHOOL

Family Habits that Contribute to School Readiness

School readiness encompasses the socio-emotional, physical, and cognitive skills that enable a child to succeed in an early learning environment.

The Parent Nursery School issues a Family Participation Survey to parents which explores the extent to which their family habits support school readiness skills such as early literacy and numeracy, exploratory skills, physical exercise and well-being, and regular home routines. All 16 participating families completed a parent survey at program conclusion. The following data demonstrates the results as assessed at program conclusion.

The parent survey used by the Parent Nursery School is a custom evaluation instrument which was developed based on a review of best practice tools and literature to include:

- Epstein's Framework of Six Types of Parent Involvement
- Family Involvement Questionnaire (FIQ)
- Parents as Teachers Survey of Parenting Practices
- Parent Appraisals of Children's Experiences 2.1 (PACE)

Reading Routines



63% of participating families read to their child at least 5-6 days per week.

Numeracy Activities



69% of participating families practice counting or activities that involve numbers at least 5-6 days per week.

Learning through Play



38% of participating families play with their child at least 5-6 days per week.

Physical & Motor Development



94% of participating families take their child outdoors to participate in physical activities at least 5-6 days per week.

Regular Routines



81% of participating families follow a regular routine at least 5-6 days per week.

Additionally, all families (100%) indicated that they have a place in their house where their child can read, do arts and crafts, and/or play with their toys.

Survey results indicate that a large majority of families that participate in the Parent Nursery School participate in activities that support school readiness on a regular basis (5-6 days per week). The area where there is the largest opportunity for growth is in relationship to families playing with their child. The program may want to offer fun easy examples of how they can integrate singing songs, playing games, building things and playing with toys into their daily routines.

Program Satisfaction

In addition to collecting data related to family habits, the Family Participation Survey collects parent satisfaction data to assess the extent that the program provided services that were responsive to the needs of young children.

Families who participated in services had positive impressions of the program as demonstrated in the results below.

This program has helped prepare my child for kindergarten.

My ideas and opinions are welcomed and included in the program.

My impressions and interactions with staff have been positive.

My overall satisfaction with services was very good.

	Agree or Strongly Agree	Neutral	Disagree or Strongly Disagree
This program has helped prepare my child for kindergarten.	100% (16)	-	-
My ideas and opinions are welcomed and included in the program.	100% (16)	-	-
My impressions and interactions with staff have been positive.	100% (16)	-	-
My overall satisfaction with services was very good.	100% (16)	-	-

CHILDREN'S GARDEN PROJECT

Program Description

The Children's Garden Project aims to teach young children age 5 and under the fundamentals of gardening as well as to provide basic guidance on healthy nutrition and an appreciation of where their food comes from. Through hands-on, interactive activities, both children and families learn about the life cycle of a plant, garden friends and pests, companion planting, and harvesting. Activities include relevant stories about gardening and food and helping with garden chores in a natural outdoor setting, offering a healthy snack that is often directly harvested from the garden, and crafting. These activities contribute additional elements to the garden experience: physical exercise, actively participating in growing their own food, outdoor recreation, and creative opportunities. The project partners with early care and education programs to provide services to its target population. It also hosts free weekly activities in Weaverville and Hayfork for families with young children.

Who was Served?

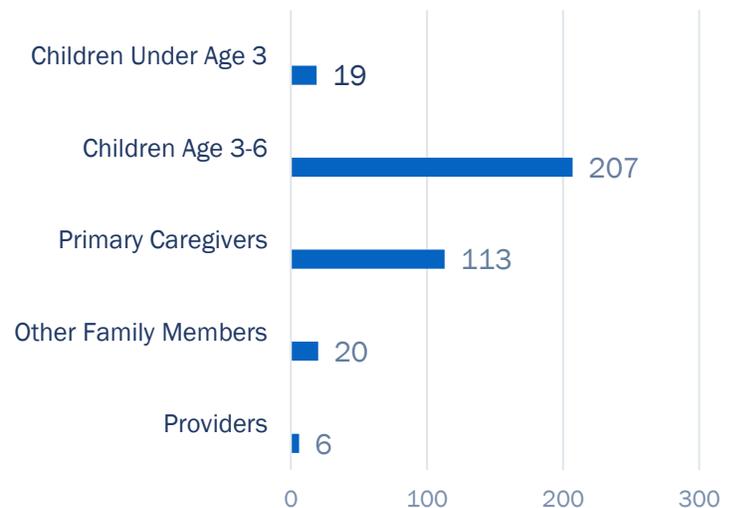
Program participants included children prenatal through five as well as their family members.

Between July 1, 2017 and June 30, 2018 the program served a total of:

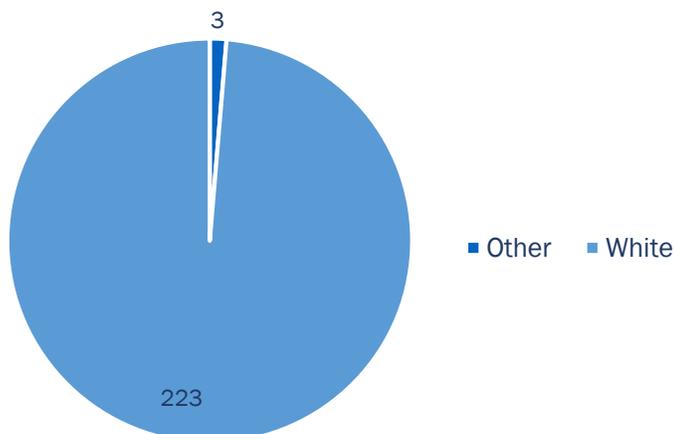
226 children ages 0 through 5

113 parents and caregivers

As indicated in the chart to the right, most of the children served were between the ages of 3 through 5 years old. In addition to the children served, a total of 113 primary caregivers, 20 other family members, and 6 providers were served by the program.



What was the Profile of Children Served? N=62



The majority of children served were white (223 or 99%). All children served spoke English as their primary language.

What Type of Services Were Provided?

The following number of gardening activities were held between July 1, 2017, and June 30, 2018:



SMALL COMMUNITY INVESTMENTS

Description of Investments

A number of small community investments are made by First 5 Trinity County to support services to children ages 0-5 and their families.

<p>Car Seat Safety Program</p>  <p>The Human Response Network offers families instruction on the appropriate use of car seats as well as car seat distribution.</p>	<p>Summer Food Distribution</p>  <p>Trinity Food Outreach distributes food during the summer months to young children and their families.</p>	<p>Hayfork Valley Swimming Program</p>  <p>The Trinity County School District offers water safety instruction to children ages 0-5 and their parents in Weaverville.</p>	<p>Weaverville Parks & Rec Swim Program</p>  <p>The Weaverville Parks and Rec program offers water safety instruction for children ages 0-5 and their parents in Hayfork Valley.</p>	<p>Community Learning Garden</p>  <p>The Community Learning Garden targets WIC participants and offers information about healthy food options.</p>
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Who was Served?

<p>112 Children Ages 0-5</p> <p>112 Caregivers</p> <p>The race and ethnicity of children in the program were unknown.</p> <p>All children in the program spoke English as their primary language.</p>	<p>17 Children Ages 0-5</p> <p>- Caregivers</p> <p>The majority of children served were white (15 or 88%).</p> <p>All children in the program spoke English as their primary language.</p>	<p>47 Children Ages 0-5</p> <p>36 Caregivers</p> <p>The majority of children served were white (38 or 81%), followed by two or more races (4 or 9%).</p> <p>All children in the program spoke English as their primary language.</p>	<p>193 Children Ages 0-5</p> <p>68 Caregivers</p> <p>20 Other Family</p> <p>The majority of children served were white (15 or 88%).</p> <p>The language of children in the program was unknown.</p>	<p>193 Children Ages 0-5</p> <p>68 Caregivers</p> <p>The majority of children served were white (137 or 71%), followed by two or more races (36 or 19%), and Hispanic (19 or 10%).</p> <p>All children in the program spoke English as their primary language.</p>
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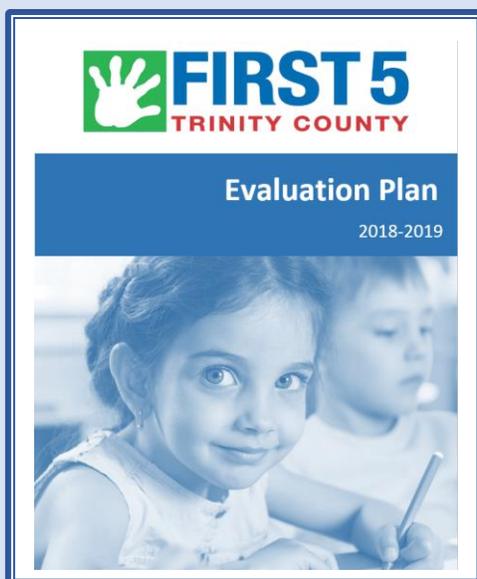
PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

First 5 Trinity understands the critical importance that its funding and leadership play in supporting young children and their families. During FY 17-18, there was a recognition that anecdotal knowledge needed to be combined with quantitative results in order to demonstrate impact. As a result, an evaluation consultant was secured to support the Commission, and evaluation plans were established for each of the Commission's primary investments.

Social Entrepreneurs Inc. (SEI) was secured as the evaluation contractor in January of 2018 and have established an evaluation plan for Commission investments as an initial task. Given that funded partners had already provided three-quarters of a year's worth of services by the time the evaluation contractor was in place with a plan, new evaluation parameters were not imposed upon funded partners for FY 17-18 services. As a result, evaluation findings for FY 17-18 represent process indicators, with a plan in place to assess outcome indicators for FY 18-19.

Process indicators for FY 2017-2018 include:

- 78 children benefited from a parent co-op preschool program and kindergarten readiness playgroups.
- 26 primary caregivers received home visiting for support with their newborn and very young children.
- 419 children and 181 primary caregivers participated in community garden programs focused on improving family nutrition.
- 107 children benefited from car safety services and supports.
- 93 children benefited from water safety instruction.



The 2018-2019 plan for evaluation was developed to support analysis within the results-based accountability model.

It was driven by the three priority areas of the 2015-2020 First 5 Trinity Strategic Plan and aligned to the First 5 California evaluation result areas.

The evaluation framework for 2018-2019 is provided on the following page.

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

Empowered Children and Families

Are families developing routines that support a child's development and readiness for kindergarten?

- **Indicator:** Number/percent of parents that report regular activities such as reading, counting, and indoor/outdoor play.
- **Indicator:** Number/percent of parents report that they or another family establish a regular routine; such as getting up and going to bed at the same time for their child.
- **Indicator:** Number/percent of families that report having a place in their home where the child can read, do arts, and crafts, or play with their toys.

Do families have access to family support services and resources?

- **Indicator:** Number of families participating in family strengthening activities.
- **Indicator:** Number/percent of families being linked to community resources.
- **Indicator:** Number of families receiving supplemental food resources.
- **Indicator:** Number/percent of families that receive information about parenting practices and child development.
- **Indicator:** Number/percent of families with improved knowledge about how to establish a safe home for their child.

Are families and children making healthy food choices?

- **Indicator:** Number of children and families participating in community gardening activities.
- **Indicator:** Number/percent of families who report that the community gardening activities have helped their family make healthier food choices.
- **Indicator:** Number/percent of children who have an increased understanding of healthy food choices.

Are children receiving preventive primary health and dental care?

- **Indicator:** Number/percent of children with access to regular medical care.
- **Indicator:** Number/percent of children with access to regular dental care.
- **Indicator:** Number/percent of children who received oral health education.
- **Indicator:** Number/percent of children that have had the necessary health screenings for kindergarten entry.

Are children receiving early screening and intervention for developmental delays and other special needs?

- **Indicator:** Number of children who received developmental screenings.

Early Care and Development

Are children entering kindergarten ready to learn?

- **Indicator:** Number of children participating in early care and education programs.
- **Indicator:** Number/percent of children who are adequately prepared for kindergarten entry.
- **Indicator:** Number/percent of children that are assessed for school readiness.

Systems of Care

Are services responsive to the needs of families with young children?

- **Indicator:** Number of parents reporting satisfaction with the content, quality, and family-centeredness of services.