

# First 5 Sacramento Community Connections Grants (CCG)

## Is Your Idea a Good Fit for First 5 Funds?

Many activities for young children are highly needed. There are great ideas for projects in the community. Despite how “great” the project idea may be, First 5 is limited to use these funds for community driven projects that benefit young children and provide opportunities to build relationships.

### *What makes a project a “Good Fit” for these funds?*

- Idea is community driven (not directed by an agency)
- Volunteers manage the entire project and are committed to see it through (not a “one man show”)
- Activities are focused on young children (0-5 years of age)
- Involves Parent/Child interaction
- Involves getting together with other parents/families in the community to build connections
- Meeting regularly allows opportunity to build relationships
- Partner with agencies/schools/organizations/churches in their community (but do not receive funds)
- Cannot be an existing project

Think about ideas you can do together WITH your community not just FOR your community.

Below are some examples of good and “not so good” fit ideas for these funds.\*

<b>NOT a Good Fit for CCG Funds:</b>	<b>Why not?</b>	<b>Good Fit for CCG</b>
Sponsorship for 3-5 year olds to play soccer on a team.	Provides \$, not activities; Lacks parent involvement and opportunity to build relationships.	Project for 3-5 years olds to socialize and play soccer <u>together with their families</u> on a <u>weekly</u> basis.
An annual block party event.	Lacks opportunity to build relationships over time.	<u>Monthly</u> Family Fun Nights where <u>neighbors participate</u> in the planning and organization of meetings and events.
A non-profit agency wants to add a cultural program for young children.	Agency’s idea. Not community driven.	<u>Families want</u> to gather <u>monthly</u> to learn about different cultures through books, music, food and more. They partner with a non-profit to provide them with space for free.
A nutritionist who wants to teach parents how to cook healthier for their children.	Not community driven. Provides service vs. community participating together.	<u>Neighbors</u> who want to learn to cook healthier with and for their young children and <u>gather weekly</u> to share recipes and meals.
A community garden at a school maintained by 4 <sup>th</sup> graders.	Not a 0-5 year old focus; Limited community access.	A community garden maintained by grandparents together with their <u>preschool grandchildren</u> .
A father’s fitness class.	Lacks parent/ child interaction.	A father’s group focused on parenting topics and <u>interactive activities</u> with their <u>young children</u> .
A neighborhood group seeking funding to maintain their existing children’s art program.	Existing program. Must be new or an expansion.	A neighborhood group that would like to <u>expand</u> their children’s project to include music and dance activities for their families.
A church wants to reach out to families with special needs.	Not community driven.	<u>Church members</u> begin a support group and story time for families that have a young child with special needs. Families outside the church are invited.

\*All group activities must take place in Sacramento County.