



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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First 5 California and Partner Organizations Distribute Emergency Supplies to Sacramento Child Care Providers

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (January 23, 2021) – Partnering organizations including First 5 Sacramento County, Child Action, Inc. and SupplyBank.Org convened on Saturday to host a drive-thru supply distribution event for 350 local child care providers as part of the First 5 California Emergency Supplies Program. Recognizing that child care providers were struggling due to the pandemic, First 5 California initially launched the program with a \$4-million-dollar investment to fund emergency supplies for all 58 county First 5 commissions in the state and has since increased the program to \$5 million.

To date, the statewide program has distributed 6.3 million diapers, 8.8 million baby wipes, 6.6 million masks, 3.9 million disposable gloves, 11,745 infrared thermometers, 317,500 units of hand sanitizers and soaps and other items, with more on the way.

The program serves child care providers and other community based agencies serving the broader needs of many children and families, including those in Sacramento County. Since the start of this program, Child Action, Inc. has implemented local distribution by holding 13 distribution events, reaching 1,000 child care providers.

“The program addresses the ongoing shortages and urgent demand of essential supplies for child care providers and the community,” said Camille Maben, executive director of First 5 California. “Our efforts are providing local county commissions support for reducing community spread and detecting symptoms as early as possible, which is why we are pleased to be distributing nearly 11,000 infrared thermometers to essential service providers remaining open during the pandemic.”

To facilitate the purchase and distribution of these supplies, First 5 California is working in conjunction with SupplyBank.Org—a California-based nonprofit that specializes in leveraging bulk purchasing power and innovative supply chain strategies—to provide low-cost supplies to organizations supporting low-income and vulnerable populations.

“We’re excited to be able utilize our model to address the emergency needs with our allied agencies in Sacramento County and throughout California,” said Benito Delgado-Olson, founder and executive director of SupplyBank.Org. “We are grateful for the partnership and leadership of First 5 California, First 5 Sacramento, and all other contributors for joining the effort to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and ensure all families have health, safety and comfort during this unprecedented time.”

The total quantities of PPE and emergency relief items are attached to this release.

About First 5 California: First 5 California was established in 1998 when voters passed Proposition 10, which taxes tobacco products to fund services for children ages 0 to 5 and their families. First 5 California programs and resources are designed to educate and support teachers, parents, and caregivers in the critical role they play during a child's first five years – to help California kids receive the best possible start in life and thrive. For more information, please visit www.ccfc.ca.gov.

About First 5 Sacramento

Research shows that 90% of a child's brain develops in the first five years and what parents and caregivers do during these years to support their child's growth will have a meaningful impact throughout life. Based on this research, California voters passed Proposition 10 in 1998, a tobacco tax, to support programs for expectant parents and children ages 0-5. In the last year, First 5 Sacramento distributed approximately \$12 million a year in Prop 10 revenues to programs and services that meet local needs in Sacramento County. All 58 counties have a First 5 Children and Families Commission providing unique local services for that county. More information available at www.first5sacramento.net, [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), [YouTube](#) and [Pinterest](#).

About Child Action, Inc.: Child Action, Inc. (CAI) is a private, non-profit corporation founded in 1976 to promote the education and social welfare of children and families and to advocate on their behalf. Programs include resource and referral services for families seeking child care, child care subsidies for qualifying families, recruitment and professional development of the child care workforce, and family education and support.

About SupplyBank.Org: SupplyBank.Org is the nonprofit building the nation's first "supply bank" (like a food bank, but for supplies) to address the unmet material needs of low-income children and families. Leveraging the best practices of regional food banks, SupplyBank.Org centralizes procurement and in-kind donations to provide upwards of \$3 worth of basic necessities for every \$1 invested. In the past few years, we have provided more than \$27 million worth of materials including diapers, hygiene supplies, school supplies and refurbished laptops to hundreds of thousands of low-income children and families throughout California. By distributing materials through a statewide network of partnering agencies that provide additional resources supporting pathways out of poverty, we aim to both alleviate the immediate symptoms of unmet material needs and empower families to work towards self-sufficiency. For more information, visit www.supplybank.org.

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