

First 5 Siskiyou, Siskiyou's Child Abuse Prevention Council, is dedicated to strong innovative partnerships and collaboration to diversify funds and resources to prevent child abuse and neglect and improve health and well-being of all children in Siskiyou County.

## OUR VISION

Siskiyou County's children are safe, healthy, and prepared to succeed in school and life as a result of the support and nurturing they receive from their families, caregivers, educators, and communities.

For more information and partnership opportunities contact Karen Pautz, Executive Director at (530) 918-7222 or [karenpautz@first5siskiyou.org](mailto:karenpautz@first5siskiyou.org)

## OUR COMMISSION

Allan Carver, Commission Chair  
Siskiyou County  
Superintendent of Schools

Sarah Collard, PhD, Commission Vice Chair  
Director, Siskiyou County  
Health and Human Services

Shelly Davis, MSN, MNL, BSN, PHN, CCHP  
Siskiyou County Health and Human Services  
Director, Public Health Division  
Director, Environmental Health Division  
Director, Correctional Health Services

Jess W. Harris, District 1  
Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors

David Marriott, MD  
Pediatrician, Fairchild Medical Center Clinic  
Scott Valley Rural Health Center

Judithe Washington  
Retired Teacher/Vice Principal

# FIRST 5 SISKIYOU

## CHILDREN & FAMILIES COMMISSION

### Siskiyou's Child Abuse Prevention Council



Photo by  
Krista Weagraff

## Serving Families with Children from Birth to 18

Our focus is outlined in these areas:

### IMPROVE FAMILY WELL-BEING

Increase resources for families to optimize the critical role they play in the emotional, physical, and social development of their children.

### ENHANCE EARLY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Promote and optimize children's development and learning both inside and outside the home by improving access to high quality early care and education programs.

### IMPROVE CHILD HEALTH

Provides screenings, resources, and education so that each child is healthy, well-nourished, and is in a nurturing, safe, and stable environment.

### STRENGTHEN FAMILY, COMMUNITY SUPPORT, AND PARTNERSHIP

Create and enhance collaborations for effective and efficient collective impact.



# FIRST 5 SISKIYOU CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION

## Siskiyou's Child Abuse Prevention Council — Current Programs

- 1. Community-Based Investments** ... These investments are made based on the Strengthening Families™ framework, a research-based approach to increase family strengths, enhance child development, and reduce the likelihood of child abuse and neglect.
- 2. Help Me Grow Siskiyou** ... parent friendly developmental screenings for children ages 2 months to 6 years. Families get quick connections to services and resources that support healthy development, behavior, and learning while also strengthening parents' knowledge of child development.
- 3. Quality Counts Siskiyou** ... is our local Quality Rating and Improvement System, administered by First 5 Siskiyou in partnership with Local Childcare Planning Council, Siskiyou Childcare Council and College of the Siskiyous. QCS supports early childhood centers, preschools, family child care homes, and playgroups that choose to grow their quality using state and nationally recognized standards.
- 4. Evidence-Based Early Literacy** ... Partnership with libraries, Delta Kappa Gamma, preschools, Health Care Centers, schools, kindergartens and child care programs to spark a love of reading early. Together, we provide high-quality children's books, story times, and parent workshops that highlight the power of reading with children every day.
  - Dolly Parton's Imagination Library** ... In partnership with Dolly Parton's Foundation and Delta Kappa Gamma, libraries and early care and education systems, children receive a free book in the mail every month building excitement, bonding, and home libraries from birth to age five.
  - Reach Out and Read** ... Local medical clinics "prescribe" books during well-child visits and encourage families to read together daily. Backed by strong research, this program boosts early brain development and strengthens parent-child connection.
  - Read Across Siskiyou Starts at Birth** ... With partnership from Delta Kappa Gamma, Books for Babes, Fairchild Medical Center Auxiliary, and Mercy Mount Shasta, new parents receive books and educational resources right at the hospital helping families begin reading daily from the start.
  - Anytime Storytime** ... In partnership with the Siskiyou County Library, families can call in anytime to hear stories in English and Spanish.
- 5. Kit for New Parents** ... a free, comprehensive resource for new and expectant parents emphasizing the importance of a child's early years. The Kits are available in multiple languages and are distributed countywide including through clinics, home visitation programs, and hospitals.
- 6. Smoking & Kids Don't Mix / Kick-it California** ... a partnership with Siskiyou Tobacco Education Council to increase knowledge and resources about the impact and effects of the use of tobacco products, including around children and while pregnant.
- 7. Siskiyou Parenting Education Collaborative** ... Helping families raise children who thrive through community-based educational trainings, programs, fun events, and text-based messages (ParentPowered) to boost children's learning. Each year, over 200 sessions of parenting classes are offered in our county.
- 8. First 5 Siskiyou Playgroups** ... Offer young children a joyful, safe, and enriching place to learn through play, one of the most powerful ways children grow. Led by trained early childhood educators, they blend hands-on activities, social-emotional learning, early literacy, music, movement, and parent child bonding time.
- 9. Healthy Nutrition, Education & Fitness ... CalFresh Outreach...** First 5 Siskiyou helps families access CalFresh so they can bring home more healthy food and reduce the stress of meeting basic needs.
- 10. Welcome Home Baby! ... Universal Home Visitation** ... When parents receive support early, in the comfort of their home, they experience less stress and have more tools to be the parents they want to be. Home visiting gives new families a trusted partner to walk alongside them through the early years.
- 11. Siskiyou Home Visitation Systems Coordination** ... First 5 Siskiyou serves as the Home Visitation Systems Coordinator for the county, advocating for all home visiting models and providing coaching and support to the professionals who deliver these services.
- 12. Siskiyou Professional Development Partnership** ... work together with organizations to coordinate no cost high-quality trainings for service providers and communities. Trainings such as education about the impact of trauma are provided to elevate trauma-informed practices. When we know better, we do better.
- 13. Do you know about ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences Study)** ... To help babies, toddlers and preschoolers have a strong start in life, First 5 Siskiyou and partners elevate community awareness about ACEs and 5 protective factors to nurture resilience. Public education campaigns include *Movies with a Purpose*.
- 14. Strengthening Families as a Framework for Collaboration** ... This framework is the foundation for First 5 Siskiyou collaboration with multiple service systems. As Siskiyou County's designated Child Abuse Prevention Council, First 5 Siskiyou works with more than 25 agencies, health service organizations, schools, community partners and leaders representing a unique part of systems of support families need.
- 15. Pediatric Dental Education, Screening & Support** ... This innovative project brings early oral health screenings directly to young children across the county in efforts to catch potential dental issues long before they become painful or costly, and connects families to preventive care and education.
- 16. Mercy Mt. Shasta Birthing Center Investment** ... First 5 Siskiyou proudly is investing in the Mercy Mt. Shasta Birthing Center to help ensure that every baby in our region begins life with the strongest possible start. By strengthening birthing experience and linking families to support right away, this investment helps build a foundation of health, bonding, and resilience for Siskiyou County's youngest children.
- 17. First 5 Siskiyou in the Libraries** ... First 5 Siskiyou programs are in select Libraries to expand early learning opportunities for young children and their families.
- 18. First 5 Siskiyou Investment in the Mt. Shasta Museum** ... First 5 Siskiyou supports the Mt. Shasta Museum to help create welcoming, hands-on learning experiences for young children and their families. This investment strengthens early learning spaces, enhances family-friendly exhibits, and expands opportunities for children to explore local history through play, curiosity, and discovery.
- 19. New Parent Groups** ... give families a welcoming place to connect, learn, and feel supported during the early months of parenthood. Led by caring, trained doulas, these groups offer education about child development, bonding, emotional support, and conversations that help parents feel more confident and less alone.
- 20. Family Fun Events** ... bring children, parents, and caregivers together to play, learn, and celebrate community. These gatherings are filled with hands-on activities, movement, art, stories, and opportunities for families to connect with one another. Each event is designed to spark joy while supporting early learning, social-emotional development, and strong parent-child relationships. By partnering with schools, libraries, and interested organization, these events reach families across the county creating welcoming and safe spaces where everyone feels included, supported, and part of something special
- 21. Child Sexual Trafficking & Darkness to Light Prevention Programs...** First 5 Siskiyou and partners are committed to protecting children from harm by strengthening community awareness, safety practices, and early prevention. These programs focus on educating parents, caregivers, and community partners about the warning signs of exploitation, vulnerabilities, and the protective factors that keep children safe, connected, and resilient.