

First 5 Commission of San Diego

Subject: Emerging Critical Needs

Policy Number: F5C-022

Effective Date: (to be determined)

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Purpose

To establish a policy for the First 5 Commission of San Diego (“Commission”) for the award of Emerging Critical Needs funds.

Background

At its meeting on August 17, 2009, the Commission approved the First 5 Commission of San Diego County Strategic Plan for 2010 - 2015 which includes the core strategy to fund a *“targeted response to critical needs emerging from state and local economic conditions.”* The intent is to designate flexible funding to address urgent needs to fund *“projects that address the most critical gaps in the safety net for young children and families.”* Since most of the Commission’s resources are committed to planned efforts, the Emerging Critical Needs fund has been created to ensure the Commission has the ability to promptly fund projects that are not part of planned initiatives in response to the current critical needs of the community as a result of state and local economic conditions. At its meeting on September 11, 2009, the Commission approved the 5-Year Allocation Plan which includes the allocation of funds for Emerging Critical Needs.

Policy Criteria

Each Emerging Critical Needs application will be evaluated using the following criteria. To be considered for funding, applicants shall demonstrate how the project meets **all** of the following criteria.

- A. Supports the Commission’s vision, mission, values, strategic goals and objectives
- B. Demonstrates a compelling community need
- C. Demonstrates a direct relationship between the proposed project and the identified need(s)
- D. Demonstrates that the funding source for the project has been reduce/eliminated and that there is no other funding source for the project **OR** that the need has increased substantially due to economic conditions and there is inadequate funding to meet the increased need
- E. Measurably advances the strategies and objectives of the First 5 Commission of San Diego County 2010-2015 Strategic Plan

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- F. Identifies obtainable measurable outcomes that clearly link to the First 5 Commission of San Diego County's Evaluation Framework
- G. Demonstrates a history of successful implementation and achievement of project goals
- H. Demonstrates use of an evidenced-based practice(s) or proven practice in service delivery
- I. Provides an opportunity to leverage other funds or resources
- J. Does not supplant existing services in San Diego
- K. Provides a written "exit strategy" and a plan for sustaining services after First 5 funding ends
- L. Demonstrates reasonable costs for anticipated results

Eligibility Requirements

Ineligible Applicants or Projects. The following applicants or projects are ineligible for an Emerging Critical Needs award:

- For profit organizations
- Research projects
- Capital expenses, such as new facilities or building renovation
- Applicants who have previously received Responsive Funds or Emerging Critical Needs Funds for the same project
- Projects requesting more than three years of funding
- Applicants who are members of a Commission committee may not apply for these funds, nor may their employer or the entity for which they serve as a consultant apply for these funds during the time that the individual serves on the committee and for one-year after his or her committee term ends
- Projects that were entirely or a part of a previous Commission solicitation in which the applicant organization did not receive an award
- Projects that were previously funded by the Commission but not selected for continued funding

Eligibility Requirements for Funding. All organizations requesting Emerging Critical Needs funds must meet all the following requirements to be considered for funding:

- A. Organization Status: Applicants shall be private non-profit [a 501(c) (3) or 501(c) (4)] or public non-profit entities. For-profit organizations are not eligible to apply.
- B. Local Program: Organizations receiving funding must currently provide services to children in the County of San Diego and have an existing local service site.

