



Board of Supervisors

Family & Social Services Cluster

Agenda Review Meeting

DATE: September 18, 2024

TIME: 1:30PM – 3:30PM

MEETING CHAIRS: Susan Kim & Lizzie Shuster, 3rd Supervisorial District

CEO MEETING FACILITATOR: Claudia Alarcon

This meeting will be held in hybrid format which allows the public to participate virtually, or in-person, as permitted under the Board of Supervisors' March 19, 2024 order

To participate in the meeting in-person, the meeting location is:

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012
Room 140

To participate in the meeting virtually, please call teleconference number
1 (323) 776-6996 and enter the following 995 916 944# or

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

For Spanish Interpretation, the Public should send emails within 48 hours in advance of the meeting to: ClusterAccommodationRequest@bos.lacounty.gov

Members of the Public may address the Family & Social Services Cluster on any agenda item during General Public Comment.

The meeting chair will determine the amount of time allowed for each item.

THIS TELECONFERENCE WILL BE MUTED FOR ALL CALLERS. PLEASE DIAL *6 TO UNMUTE YOUR PHONE WHEN IT IS YOUR TIME TO SPEAK.

- I. **Call to Order**
- II. **Consent Item(s)** (Any Information Item is subject to discussion and/or presentation at the request of two or more Board offices):
 - a. **Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS):** Request to Approve Sole Source Amendment to Training and Staff Development and Master of Social Work Internship Program Service Contract.
- III. **Presentation/Discussion Items:**
 - a. **First5 Los Angeles** Strategic Plan Implementation Process.
 - b. **DCFS:** Transition Aged Youth Unit Presentation.
 - c. **DCFS:** Bringing Families Home Program Update.

IV. Public Comment

V. Standing item(s) and those continued from a previous meeting of the Board of Supervisors or from a previous FSS Agenda Review meeting.

VI. Adjournment

BOARD LETTER/MEMO CLUSTER FACT SHEET

 Board Letter

 Board Memo

 Other

CLUSTER AGENDA REVIEW DATE	9/18/2024	
BOARD MEETING DATE	10/8/2024	
SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT AFFECTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All <input type="checkbox"/> 1 st <input type="checkbox"/> 2 nd <input type="checkbox"/> 3 rd <input type="checkbox"/> 4 th <input type="checkbox"/> 5 th	
DEPARTMENT(S)	Department of Children and Family Services	
SUBJECT	Training and Staff Development and Master of Social Work Internship Program Contract	
PROGRAM	DCFS University Training Section	
AUTHORIZES DELEGATED AUTHORITY TO DEPT	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
SOLE SOURCE CONTRACT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
	If Yes, please explain why: Department does not have delegated authority to extend this agreement, which will increase the initial contract maximum.	
SB 1439 SUPPLEMENTAL DECLARATION FORM REVIEW COMPLETED BY EXEC OFFICE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No – Not Applicable	
DEADLINES/ TIME CONSTRAINTS		
COST & FUNDING	Total cost: \$14,691,867	Funding source: 75% federal funds and 25% 2011 State Realignment/NCC funds.
	TERMS (if applicable): Extend the Training and Staff Development and Master of Social Work (MSW) Internship Program Services contract through June 30, 2025; and to increase the existing maximum annual contract sum of \$5,210,433 by \$9,481,434 for a new maximum annual contract sum of \$14,691,867.	
	Explanation: The following items were key additions to the new contract that resulted in an increase to the budget, however not inclusive of all increases: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in Personnel to support the implementation of current and upcoming initiatives like Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) and CARES: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ E-learning Developer ○ Trainer ○ Assistant Training Director • Audio and Visual upgrades for training rooms at DCFS University Downtown Training Center. • Increase from 62 to 118 stipends. This include the change from one year stipends to two year stipends. • Increase of per stipend cost from \$18,500 to \$26,000. • Given the increase of stipends, additional personnel time was approved for stipend program. 	

PURPOSE OF REQUEST	
BACKGROUND (include internal/external issues that may exist including any related motions)	<p>The Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) established "The DCFS University" to provide professional development to DCFS staff and to advance the DCFS mission. As of April 1, 2014, the Department began contracting with the Regents of the University of California (UCLA) for its training and the internship program.</p> <p>The DCFS University supports staff development for the over 8900 DCFS staff with three training centers with one site located in downtown Los Angeles, a second site in Norwalk, and a third site in the Antelope Valley. The center in downtown Los Angeles is funded through this contract and it's a 28,000 square feet state-of-the art facility that includes seven large training rooms, four simulation labs (one outfitted with a viewing room), two computer labs, and a studio for the development of e-learning and other web-based technologies, a library for archived material, a sizable conference room with videoconference capability, and a "huddle room" for smaller meetings.</p> <p>The center in downtown Los Angeles supports the collaboration between DCFS and University trainers as a centralized location, facilitates a coordinated partnership for the design, development and delivery of training for our DCFS staff.</p> <p>The DCFS Training Section, in collaboration with university partners, provide foundational training to newly hired Children's Social Workers (CSWs). This training model calls for a 52-week training program, featuring classroom instruction, virtual trainings, field experience and the use of latest technologies. The foundational training includes the use of simulation training. Each social worker is provided with the opportunity to participate in two simulation experiences during their foundational training. Simulations incorporate lessons learned from real DCFS cases and imitate real-life casework issues that CSWs experience during in-home visits; client and collateral interviews; safety and risk assessment; and the analysis of a family's progress towards achieving case plan goals. The simulation training is specifically focused on promoting and developing critical thinking, decision making, analysis and problem solving skills.</p> <p>This contract will provide a full continuum of training services and will include a training needs assessment to measure knowledge and skill in order to plan and deliver targeted workforce development services. It will also align workforce development services with the Department's implementation of the Family First Prevention Services Act and the Integrated Core Practice Model (ICPM). It will continue to supports the delivery of training for the CSW and SCSW Academies, Motivational Interviewing, Structure Decision Making (SDM), Trauma, LGBTQ, Child Interviewing, Self-Esteem and Haircare of Black Foster Youth Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS), Father Engagement, Cultural Humility in Practice, and other priority trainings.</p> <p>It also supports the Title IV-E MSW program that funds a two-year stipend program. This allows qualified Title IV-E MSW candidates to receive up to \$26,000 for each academic term. The graduating MSW interns commit to a two-year work requirement to DCFS. It provides DCFS the opportunity to hire graduate interns for a two-year period and assists with sustaining a DCFS' workforce.</p> <p>The goal of the stipend program is to foster an environment in which DCFS staff and student interns have the necessary training and tools to be competent and successful in the field of Public Child Welfare. Further, the overall goal is increase the number of professional social work staff in DCFS to provide competent child welfare services to clients in the areas of assessment and intervention.</p>
EQUITY INDEX OR LENS WAS UTILIZED	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If Yes, please explain how:
SUPPORTS ONE OF THE NINE BOARD PRIORITIES	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If Yes, please state which one(s) and explain how:

**DEPARTMENTAL
CONTACTS**

Name, Title, Phone # & Email:



County of Los Angeles
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

510 S. Vermont Avenue, Los Angeles, California 90020
(213) 351-5602



BRANDON T. NICHOLS
Director

JENNIE FERIA
Chief Deputy Director

Board of Supervisors
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KATHRYN BARGER
Fifth District

October 8, 2024

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**REQUEST TO APPROVE SOLE SOURCE AMENDMENT TO
TRAINING AND STAFF DEVELOPMENT AND MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK
INTERNSHIP PROGRAM SERVICE CONTRACT
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

The Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) requests the Board's approval of an amendment to extend the Training and Staff Development and Master of Social Work (MSW) Internship Program Services contract through June 30, 2025; and to increase the budget amount.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Delegate authority to the Director of DCFS, or his designee, to execute an amendment substantially similar to Attachment A, to extend the contract with the Regents of the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) for the provision of staff training and development services, and as a MSW Internship Program through June 30, 2025, and increase the maximum annual contract sum by \$9,481,434 for a new maximum annual contract sum of \$14,691,867. The Contract Sum of \$14,691,867 is funded by 75 percent Federal funds, and 25 percent 2011 State Realignment/Net County Cost (NCC). Sufficient funding will be included in the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Adopted Budget.

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

2. Delegate authority to the Director of DCFS, or his designee, to execute amendments to increase or decrease the Maximum Annual Contract Sum up to 10 percent, if such an amendment is necessary to meet a change in service demands and the necessary funding is available in the budget. Approval from County Counsel will be obtained prior to executing such amendment, and the Director will notify the Board and the Chief Executive Office (CEO) in writing within 10 business days after execution.
3. Delegate authority to the Director of DCFS, or his designee, to execute amendments to the contract to make changes to the scope of work or the terms and conditions to meet program needs, provided that: (a) prior County Counsel approval is granted and (b) the Director of DCFS, or his designee, notifies the Board and the CEO in writing within 10 business days after execution of such amendment.
4. Delegate authority to the Director of DCFS, or their designee, to terminate the Training and Staff Development the current contract with UCLA in order to execute the new contract that was authorized by the Board on June 4, 2024, provided that: a) County Counsel approval is obtained prior to such termination; and b) DCFS notifies the Board and the CEO, in writing, within ten business days of terminating the Contract.
5. Delegate authority to the Director of DCFS, or his designee, to execute Title IV-E stipend agreements with individual student trainees enrolled in Masters of Social Work degree programs. The cost of the education stipends is included in the Training and Staff Development contract with UCLA. The Title IV-E stipend agreements allow the student trainees to receive the education stipend on the condition that they agree to work for DCFS for a two-year period upon earning their degree.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

The recommended actions will allow DCFS to continue to work in collaboration with UCLA's Department of Social Welfare/Luskin School of Public Affairs to provide foundational training to newly hired Children's Social Workers (CSWs). This training model calls for a 52-week training program, featuring classroom instruction, virtual trainings, field experience and the use of latest technologies. The foundational training also includes the use of simulation training. Each CSW is provided with the opportunity to participate in two simulation experiences during their foundational training. The training simulations incorporate lessons learned from real DCFS cases and imitate real-life casework issues that CSWs experience during in-home visits; client and collateral interviews; safety and risk assessments; and the analysis of a family's progress towards

achieving case plan goals. The simulation training is specifically focused on promoting and developing critical thinking, decision-making, analysis and problem solving skills.

Implementation of Los Angeles County's Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended actions support North Star 1, Focus Area Goal B, Employment and Sustainable Waged, Strategy ii, Job Preparation and Strategy iii, Job Creation of the County Strategic Plan.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The total contract sum will increase to \$14,691,867, for the term ending June 30, 2025. The contractor will match an additional \$3,275,105 in in-kind services. Sufficient funding is included in the Fiscal Year 2024-25 Adopted Budget. Funding of the contract is financed using 75 percent Federal funds, and 25 percent State Realignment/net County cost funding.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

On April 1, 2014, DCFS began contracting with UCLA, for its training and staff development needs through various training centers. The training center in downtown Los Angeles supports the collaboration between DCFS and UCLA trainers as a centralized location, and facilitates a coordinated partnership for the design, development and delivery of training for DCFS staff. UCLA subcontracts with local universities and other qualified training partners to assist in providing training and staff development services to DCFS. Services from UCLA are facilitated through a Request for Services (RFS) process, whereby DCFS submits specific, detailed training requests for the design, development, delivery and evaluation of training.

The DCFS University was established by DCFS to support staff development for the over 8,900 DCFS staff with three training centers, located in downtown Los Angeles, Norwalk, and Antelope Valley. The center in Downtown Los Angeles is funded through this contract and is a 28,000 square feet state-of-the art facility that includes: seven large training rooms; four simulation labs (one outfitted with a viewing room); two computer labs; a studio for the development of e-learning and other web-based technologies; a library for archived material; a sizable conference room with videoconference capability; and a "huddle room" for smaller meetings.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

On December 19, 2023, the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) authorized DCFS to enter into a procurement by negotiation contract with UCLA with a five year term. Subsequently, on June 4, 2024, the Board delegated authority to the Director of DCFS to

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
October 8, 2024
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execute a new contract with UCLA. However, due to ongoing negotiations a new contract has not been executed. On July 1, 2024, the Board was notified that DCFS utilized Board delegated authority as adopted on June 15, 2021, to extend the contract by written notice for six months, effective July 1, 2024.

County counsel and the CEO have reviewed this Board letter. County Counsel has approved the amendment as to form.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES

Approval of this amendment will allow DCFS to continue to provide an array of training services that includes a training needs assessment to measure knowledge and skills in order to plan and deliver targeted workforce development services. It will also align workforce development services with the DCFS's Invest LA strategic framework and the Integrated Core Practice Model. The contract also continues to support the delivery of the CSWs and Supervising CSW Academies, Structure Decision Making, Trauma, LGBTQ+, Child Interviewing, Identification of Physical and Sexual Abuse, Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths, and other professional development trainings. Lastly, the contract also serves to educate and prepare MSW students who participate in the internship program for employment at DCFS upon graduation. It includes awarding MSW students with a two-year stipend program. This allows qualified Title IV-E MSW candidates to receive up to \$26,000 for each academic term.

CONCLUSION

Upon approval by the Board of Supervisors, it is requested that the Executive Officer/Clerk of the Board send an adopted stamped copy of the Board letter and attachment to the Department of Children and Family Services.

Respectfully submitted,

BRANDON T. NICHOLS
Director, DCFS

BTN:JF:CMM:LTI
SS:TN:ec

Enclosures

c: Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
October 8, 2024
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Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors



AMENDMENT NUMBER FOUR

CONTRACT NUMBER 20-0086

WITH

**THE REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA LOS ANGELES
BY AND ON
BEHALF OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE/LUSKIN
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

FOR

**TRAINING AND STAFF DEVELOPMENT AND MASTERS OF SOCIAL
WORK INTERNSHIP PROGRAM**

**AMENDMENT NUMBER FOUR
TRAINING AND STAFF DEVELOPMENT AND MASTERS OF SOCIAL WORK
INTERNSHIP PROGRAM
CONTRACT NUMBER 20-0086**

This Amendment Number Four (hereinafter referred to as "Amendment") to the Training and Staff Development and Masters of Social Work Internship Program Services Contract Number 20-0086, (hereinafter referred to as "Contract") is made and entered into at Los Angeles, California this ____ day of _____, 2024, by and between the County of Los Angeles (hereinafter referred to as "COUNTY") and The Regents of the University of California Los Angeles on Behalf of the Department of Social Welfare/Luskin School of Public Affairs, (hereinafter referred to as "Contractor").

WHEREAS, County and Contractor are parties to the Contract adopted by the Board of Supervisors on June 15, 2021, and Contractor has been providing the County extensive training and professional development programs to ensure that staff at all levels are equipped to carry out Federal, State, and County mandates related to child protection, foster care placement, permanency and adoption to the County; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this Amendment is to extend the contract the term through June 30, 2025, and;

WHEREAS, the purpose of this Amendment is to increase funding to the contract term effective upon execution of Amendment through June 30, 2025;

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing and mutual consent herein contained, County and Contractor hereby agree to amend the Contract as follows:

- 1. Unique Terms and Conditions, Section 2.0 Term, Subsection 2.1.3** is added to read as follows:
 - 2.1.3 The term of this Contract is extended for a six-month period, beginning on January 1, 2025, and continuing through June 30, 2025, unless terminated earlier or extended, in whole or in part, as provided in this Contract.

- 2. Unique Terms and Conditions, Section 3.0 Contract Sum, Subsection 3.1.5** is added to read as follows:
 - 3.1.5 The Maximum Annual Contract Sum is increased by \$9,481,434, for a total sum of \$14,691,867, through June 30, 2025, unless terminated earlier or extended, in whole or in part, as provided below.

ALL OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THIS CONTRACT SHALL REMAIN IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT.

**AMENDMENT NUMBER FOUR
TRAINING AND STAFF DEVELOPMENT AND MASTERS OF SOCIAL WORK
INTERNSHIP PROGRAM
CONTRACT NUMBER 20-0086**

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles has caused this Amendment Number Four to be subscribed on its behalf by the Director of the Department of Children and Family Services and the Contractor has caused this Amendment Number Four to be subscribed on its behalf by its duly authorized officer(s) as of the day, month and year first above written. The person(s) signing on behalf of the Contractor warrants under penalty of perjury that he or she is authorized to bind the Contractor in this Contract. This Amendment may be executed in separate counterparts and may be delivered by electronic facsimile; each counterpart, when executed and delivered, shall constitute a duplicate original but all counterparts together shall constitute a single agreement.

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

CONTRACTOR
The Regents of the University of California

By: _____
Brandon T. Nichols, Director
Department of Children
and Family Services

DocuSigned by:
Tracey Fraser
By: _____ Date: 8/20/2024
DA5C93B4480144F...

Name: Tracey Fraser

Title: Senior Director
95-6006143

Tax Identification Number

APPROVED AS TO FORM
BY THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COUNSEL
Dawyn R. Harrison, County Counsel

By: 

David Beaudet, Senior Deputy County Counsel



**County of Los Angeles
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES**

510 S. Vermont Avenue, Los Angeles, California 90020
(213) 351-5602



BRANDON T. NICHOLS
Director

JENNIE FERIA
Chief Deputy Director

Board of Supervisors
HILDA L. SOLIS
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JANICE HAHN
Fourth District
KATHRYN BARGER
Fifth District

July 1, 2024

To: Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath, Chair
Supervisor Hilda L. Solis
Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell
Supervisor Janice Hahn
Supervisor Kathryn Barger

From: Brandon T. Nichols
Director

**NOTIFICATION OF EXTENSION OF THE TRAINING AND STAFF DEVELOPMENT
AND MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK INTERNSHIP PROGRAM SERVICES CONTRACT**

This is to notify the Board that I have used Board delegated authority, as authorized by the Board letter approved on June 15, 2021, to extend the Training and Staff Development and Master of Social Work Internship Program Contract for an additional six months, effective July 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024.

The cost of the six-month extension will be \$5,210,433, financed using 75 percent Federal funds and 25 percent 2011 State Realignment/net County cost funds.

The Training and Staff Development and Master of Social Work Internship Program fulfills foundational training to newly hired Children’s Social Workers. The contractor, The Regents of the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), subcontracts with local universities and other qualified training partners to assist in providing training and staff development services to the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS). Services from UCLA are facilitated through a Request for Services process, whereby DCFS submits specific, detailed training requests for the design, development, delivery and evaluation of training.

If you have any questions or need additional information, you may call me or your staff may contact Aldo Marin, Board Liaison, at (213) 371-6052.

BTN:JF:CMM
LTI:SS:TN:ec

c: Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors

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SOLE SOURCE CHECKLIST

Department Name: _____

- New Sole Source Contract
- Sole Source Amendment to Existing Contract

Date Existing Contract First Approved: _____

Check (✓)	JUSTIFICATION FOR SOLE SOURCE CONTRACTS AND AMENDMENTS Identify applicable justification and provide documentation for each checked item.
	➤ Only one bona fide source (monopoly) for the service exists; performance and price competition are not available. A monopoly is an <i>“Exclusive control of the supply of any service in a given market. If more than one source in a given market exists, a monopoly does not exist.”</i>
	➤ Compliance with applicable statutory and/or regulatory provisions.
	➤ Compliance with State and/or federal programmatic requirements.
	➤ Services provided by other public or County-related entities.
	➤ Services are needed to address an emergent or related time-sensitive need.
	➤ The service provider(s) is required under the provisions of a grant or regulatory requirement.
	➤ Services are needed during the time period required to complete a solicitation for replacement services; provided services are needed for no more than 12 months from the expiration of an existing contract which has no available option periods.
	➤ Maintenance and support services are needed for an existing solution/system during the time to complete a solicitation for a new replacement solution/system; provided the services are needed for no more than 24 months from the expiration of an existing maintenance and support contract which has no available option periods.
	➤ Maintenance service agreements exist on equipment which must be serviced by the original equipment manufacturer or an authorized service representative.
	➤ It is more cost-effective to obtain services by exercising an option under an existing contract.
	➤ It is in the best economic interest of the County (e.g., significant costs and time to replace an existing system or infrastructure, administrative cost and time savings and excessive learning curve for a new service provider, etc.). In such cases, departments must demonstrate due diligence in qualifying the cost-savings or cost-avoidance associated with the best economic interest of the County.

Chief Executive Office

Date

Sole Source Justification

Training and Staff Development MSW Internship Program (UCLA)

1. What is being requested?

The Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) request the Board's approval to extend the Training and Staff Development MSW Internship Program with UCLA Department of Social Welfare/Luskin School of Public Affairs, effective July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025 and increase the Maximum Annual Contract Sum by \$9,481,434 for a new Maximum Annual Contract Sum of \$14,691,867. The department utilized its delegated authority to extend the agreement through December 31, 2024 while it finalizes a new agreement with UCLA. The current agreement ends December 31,2024.

On June 4, 2024 the Board approved DCFS's request to establish a new agreement with UCLA that would have been effective on July 1, 2024 but the agreement has not yet been finalized.

Total Cost:

The total cost of the extension for the year is \$14,691,867.

2. Why is the service needed – how will it be used?

The recommended actions will allow UCLA to provide professional development to DCFS staff and to advance the DCFS mission. This contract will provide a full continuum of training services and will include a training needs assessment to measure knowledge and skill in order to plan and deliver targeted workforce development services. It will also align workforce development services with the Department's implementation of the Family First Prevention Services Act and the Integrated Core Practice Model (ICPM). It will continue to supports the delivery of training for the CSW and SCSW Academies, Motivational Interviewing, Structure Decision Making (SDM), Trauma, LGBTQ, Child Interviewing, Self-Esteem and Haircare of Black Foster Youth Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS), Father Engagement, Cultural Humility in Practice, and other priority trainings. The overall goal is increase the number of professional social work staff in DCFS to provide competent child welfare services to clients in the areas of assessment and intervention.

3. Is this brand of product the only product the only one that meets the user's requirements?

No, the department is not able to bring on new vendors at this stage.

4. Have other products or vendor been considered?

On April 1, 2014, DCFS began contracting with UCLA, for its training and staff development needs. The center in downtown Los Angeles supports the collaboration between DCFS and UCLA trainers as a centralized location, and facilitates a coordinated partnership for the design, development and delivery of training for DCFS staff.

5. Will purchase of this product avoid other costs?

These actions will enable DCFS Training Section, in collaboration with university partners, provide foundational training to newly hired Children's Social Workers (CSWs). This training model calls for a 52-week training program, featuring classroom instruction, virtual trainings, field experience and the use of latest technologies.

6. Is this service available from other providers?

Yes. The department is not able to bring on new vendors at this stage.

This is a request to amend the existing contract with UCLA, a public entity.

7. Reasonableness of price. Does County obtain a percentage discount or special discount not available to the private sector?

No

8. What is the dollar value of the existing equipment?

N/A

9. Is this service the only one that meets the user's requirements?

No, the department is not able to bring on new vendors at this stage.

UCLA was approved as a sole source contract in 2014. This request is to extend the existing contract for six months.



Strategic Plan Implementation Process: Community Engagement and Work Ahead



Strategic Plan | 2024-2029

Building a future where every child is born healthy and thrives in nurturing, safe and loving communities.



Vision: We envision a future where every child is born healthy and thrives in a nurturing, safe and loving community.

Mission: We advocate for children and their families, amplify community voice and partner for collective impact so that every child in Los Angeles County reaches their full developmental potential throughout the critical years of prenatal to age 5.

GOALS

OBJECTIVES

STRATEGIES

TACTICS

Children prenatal to age 5 and their families have their basic needs met.

Reduce

- Infant Mortality
- Poverty
- Housing Insecurity

Catalyze **public policies** efforts at the local, state, and federal levels that prioritize the needs of children prenatal to age 5 and their families.

On an ongoing basis, identify and refine the tactics that advance our goals, objectives and strategies.

Children prenatal to age 5 have nurturing relationships and environments.

Increase

- Supports for Maternal Depression
- Choices for Healthy Foods
- Parks & Open Space

Collaborate with partners to **strengthen public systems**, services, and supports for children prenatal to age 5 and their families.

Universal Parameters:
Alignment and Potential Impact

Children prenatal to age 5 have a solid foundation for well-being, lifelong learning and success.

Increase

- Early Care & Education
- Early Intervention Services
- Culturally Affirming Services

Partner with **communities to collaboratively grow a social movement** that elevates the needs of children prenatal to age 5 and their families.

Equity-Driven Planning Process
Cost-Benefit and Sustainability

UNIVERSAL PARAMETERS



**ALIGNMENT AND
POTENTIAL IMPACT**



**EQUITY-DRIVEN
PLANNING PROCESS**

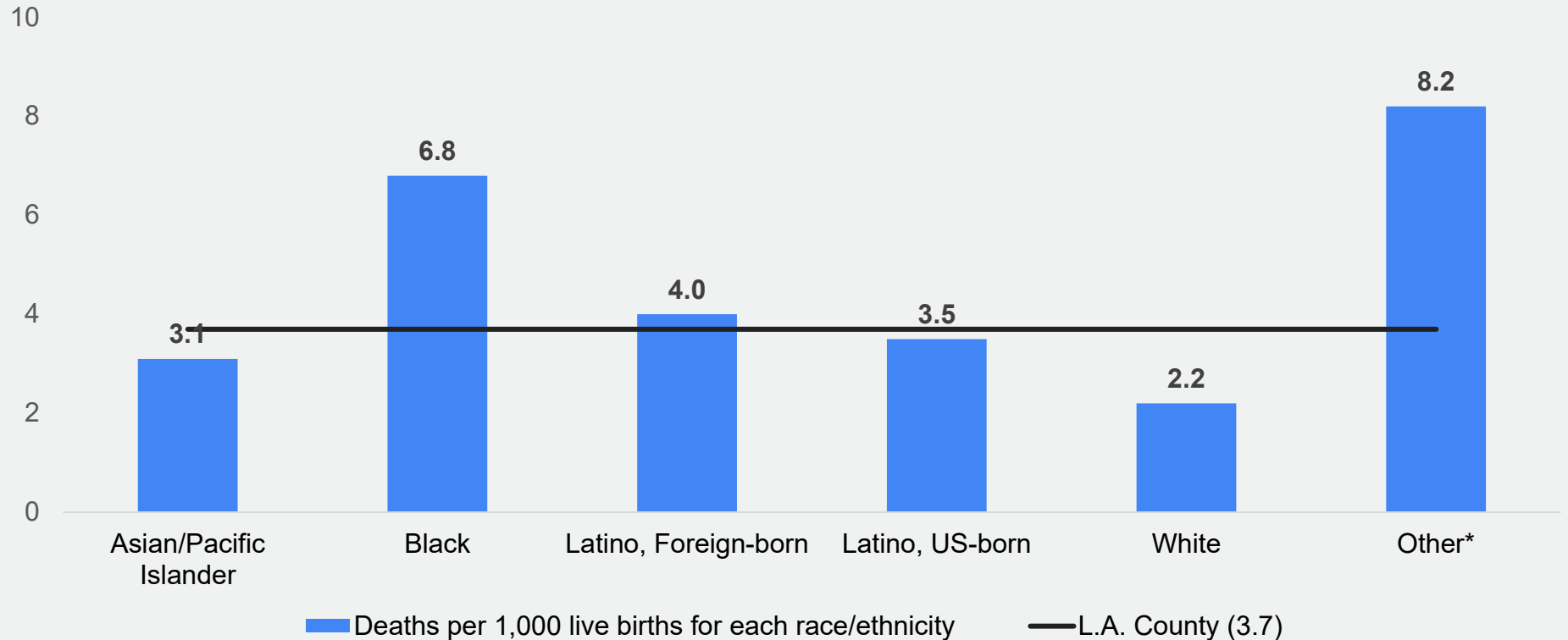


**COST-BENEFIT AND
SUSTAINABILITY**



Objective 1.1: Infant Mortality

Black infants born in L.A. County had a substantially higher infant mortality rate than those of other races/ethnicities



GOAL 1: Children age 5 and younger and their families have their basic needs

7

OBJECTIVE 1.1: Reduce the annual number of deaths of children under 1 year old per 1,000 live births in Los Angeles County to 3.5% by the end of 2029.

POTENTIAL TACTICS

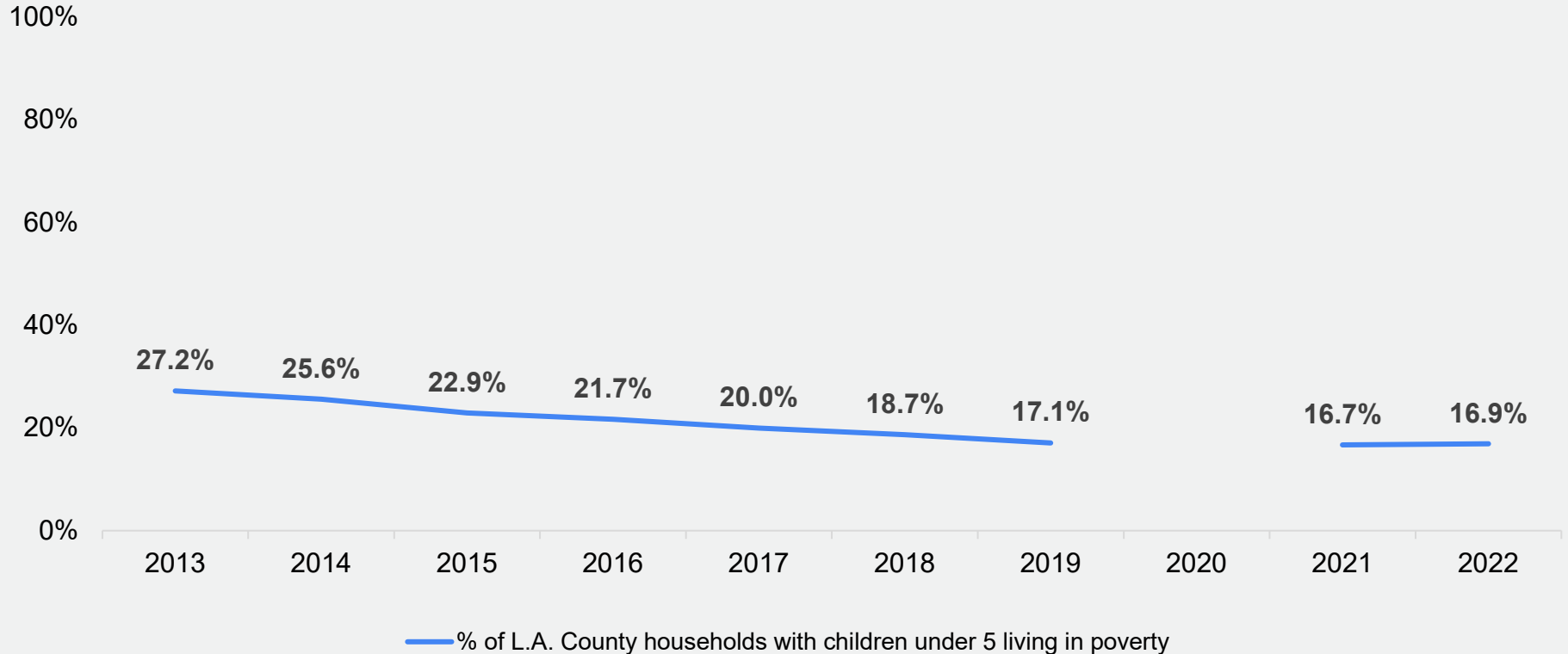
Solution Statement: *Addressing these infant mortality disparities requires acknowledging and rectifying the systemic issues that contribute to poor outcomes.*

1. **Advocacy:** **PARTNER** with others around a public policy agenda that reviews maternity ward closures in high-need areas and prioritizes their availability and sustainability. Work in partnership to build better accountability methods for perinatal care for Black birthing persons.
2. **Capacity Building:** **PARTNER** with others to provide capacity building and financial support for organizations to expand and deliver culturally affirming services, supports, and healing spaces for Black birthing persons.
3. **Engagement:** **INCLUDE** Black birthing persons and Black community stakeholders in decision-making processes to establish high-quality standards and accountability measures for perinatal care.
4. **Communications:** **ADVANCE** a narrative focused on joyous births for Black birthing persons.
5. **Home Visiting:** **PROVIDE** opportunities to connect services and resources provided by Home Visiting with joyous births to Black, Native American, Pacific Islander populations.
6. **Research:** **COLLABORATE** with Native American and Pacific Islander communities to disaggregate data and identify culturally specific and community-driven practices that promote healthy birth outcomes.
7. **Workforce:** **EXPAND** and **INTEGRATE** a Black birth workforce in hospitals and clinics and explore workforce pathways to explore development and support of this workforce.



Objective 1.2: Poverty

Poverty rates have decreased in the last ten years for L.A. County households with children under 5



GOAL 1: Children age 5 and younger and their families have their basic needs met.

OBJECTIVE 1.2: Reduce the annual percent of households with children age 5 and younger in Los Angeles County living in poverty to 15.4% by the end of 2029.

POTENTIAL TACTICS

Solution Statement: *Addressing these issues requires a comprehensive approach that tackles job disparities and strengthens social supports enabling families to break the cycle of poverty and achieve lasting economic stability.*

1. Access – Safety Net: **ENSURE** safety net programs are available and utilized by families with children under age 5, including help with navigating services.
2. Advocacy: **WORK** with partners to assess opportunities to simplify and establish presumptive eligibility across safety net entitlement programs. Advocate for state and federal policies to provide holistic, long-term supports that promote the economic advancement of families with children under 5 experiencing poverty.
3. Communications: **ADVANCE** narratives that reduce stigma related to poverty and build support for the benefits and effectiveness of programs and investments for poverty alleviation.
4. Engagement: **WORK** in partnership with others to support a network of organizations to assist immigrant and mixed-legal status families with children under 5 navigate safety net systems.
5. Workforce: **WORK** in partnership with other agencies to create workforce opportunities for adults with young children, inclusive of immigrant and mixed-legal status populations.

Objective 1.3: Housing Insecurity



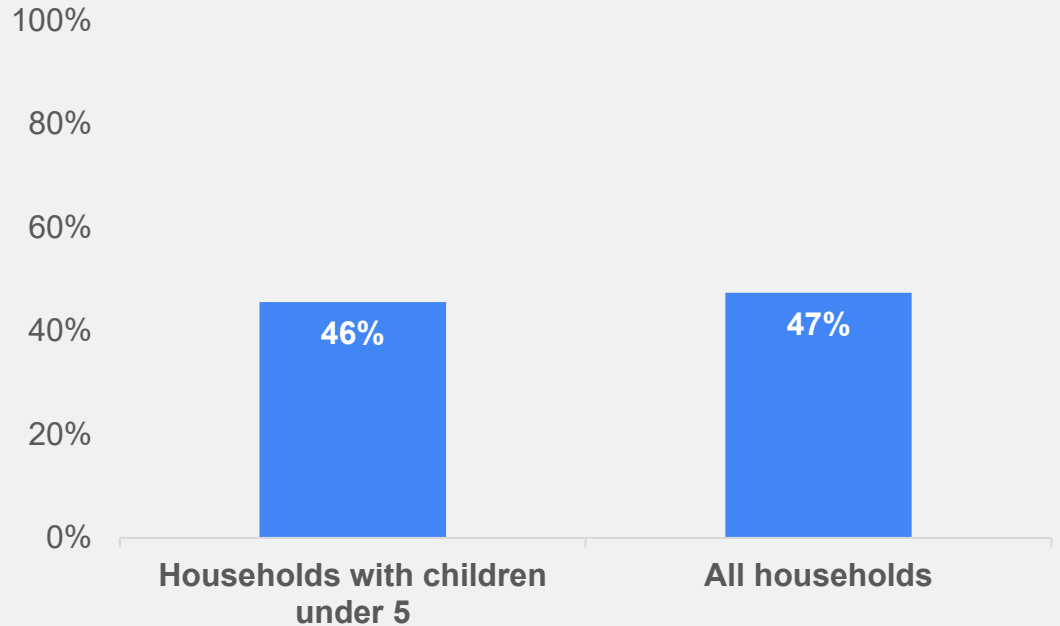
Nearly half of L.A. County households are housing insecure, whether with or without children under 5

There are

153,864

households in L.A. County with children under 5 that spend 30% or more of income on rent or mortgage

Percentage of L.A. County households that spend 30% or more of income on rent or mortgage



GOAL 1: Children age 5 and younger and their families have their basic needs met.

13

OBJECTIVE 1.3: Reduce the annual percent of households with children age 5 and younger in Los Angeles County who experience housing insecurity to 52% by the end of 2029.

POTENTIAL TACTICS

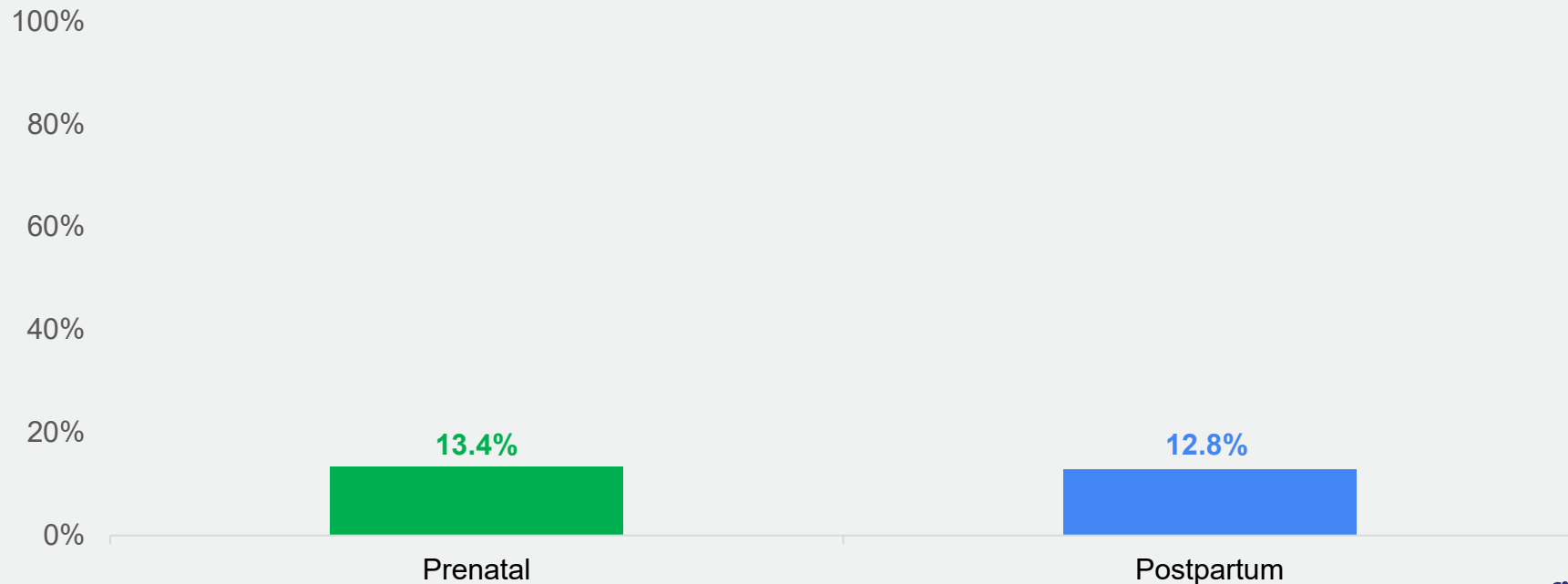
Solution Statement: *Addressing this crisis requires stronger tenant protections, increased public investment, and incentives to develop affordable housing, ensuring that all families have access to safe and stable homes.*

1. **Advocacy:** **ADVOCATE** to ensure housing policies help families with children under 5 reduce their housing insecurity. Potential policy areas include (to be assessed based on First 5 LA capacity): **(a)** tenant protections; **(b)** affordable housing production that addresses the needs for low-income families with children under 5; and **(c)** preservation – work in partnership with advocates to preserve naturally occurring affordable housing.
2. **Communications:** **ADVANCE** a narrative to build public will to address housing insecurity for families with children under 5.
3. **Engagement:** **SUPPORT** collaborative partnerships with key stakeholders (i.e., policymakers, advocacy groups, and communities) to strengthen community-driven efforts that center the housing needs of families with children under 5 in housing reform initiatives.

Objective 2.1: Supports for Maternal Depression

In L.A. County, around 13% of mothers are estimated to experience maternal depression symptoms.

Mothers Experiencing Prenatal & Postpartum Depression Symptoms, L.A. County 2019-2021



GOAL 2: Children age 5 and younger have nurturing relationships and environments.

OBJECTIVE 2.1: Increase the annual percentage of pregnant and/or postpartum people in Los Angeles County identified as at-risk for maternal depression who receive mental health care.

POTENTIAL TACTICS

Solution Statement: *Addressing these disparities requires a comprehensive approach that actively works to eliminate barriers, ensuring that all birthing people receive quality mental health care.*

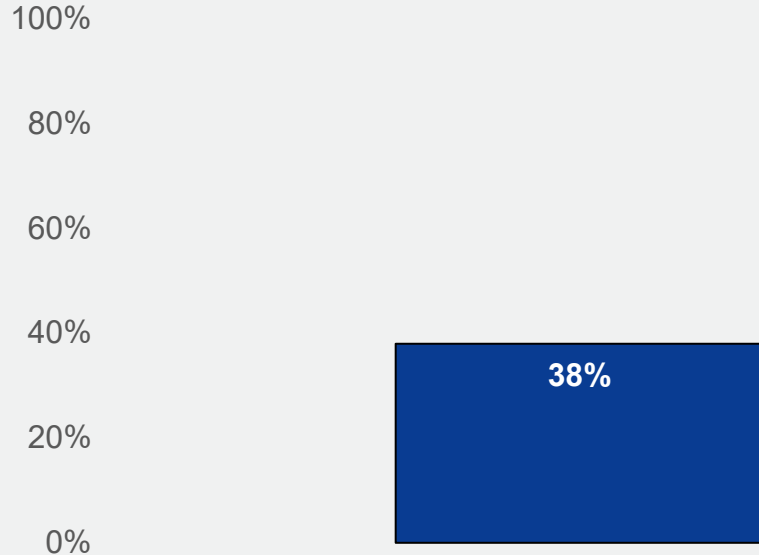
1. Advocacy: **EXPLORE** participatory research with birthing parents and potential for using state accountability measures to inform performance of local efforts to screen and track access to mental health care.
2. Access – Home Visiting: **SUPPORT** home visiting programs to provide personalized support and reduce isolation for birthing parents with children under 5, fostering trusted relationships to link birthing people and families to resources, including culturally appropriate mental health supports.
3. Communications: **LAUNCH** a multi-media, culturally specific campaign in multiple languages to normalize mental health care and to increase awareness and comfort around perinatal and well-being issues.
4. Workforce: **PARTNER** with others to increase the cultural and linguistic diversity of mental health professionals serving pregnant, birthing people, and families with children under 5.
5. Workforce – Community Health Workers: **MAXIMIZE** the connection to culturally affirming Community Health Workers to provide education on maternal and paternal perinatal mental health; offering comprehensive information on other services and resources and allow informed family decision-making.



Objective 2.2: Access to Healthy Food Choices

Only 2 out of 5 children under 5 in L.A. County live within a ½ mile of a supermarket or a larger grocery store.

Percentage of L.A. County children under 5 who live within ½ mile of a supermarket or large grocery store



356,311

children under 5 in L.A. County **did not** have access to sufficient choices for healthy foods in 2023.

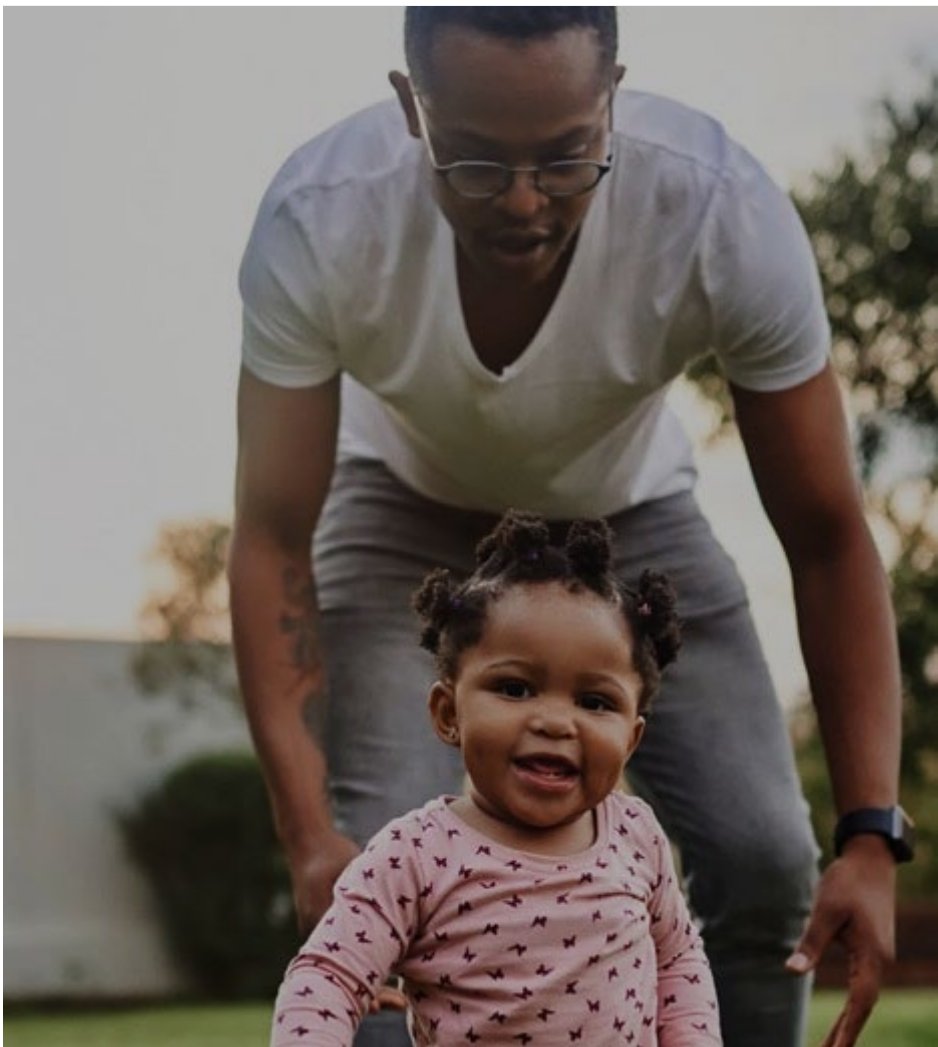
GOAL 2: Children age 5 and younger have nurturing relationships and environments.

OBJECTIVE 2.2: Increase the annual percent of children age 5 and younger in Los Angeles County with access to sufficient choices for healthy foods.

POTENTIAL TACTICS

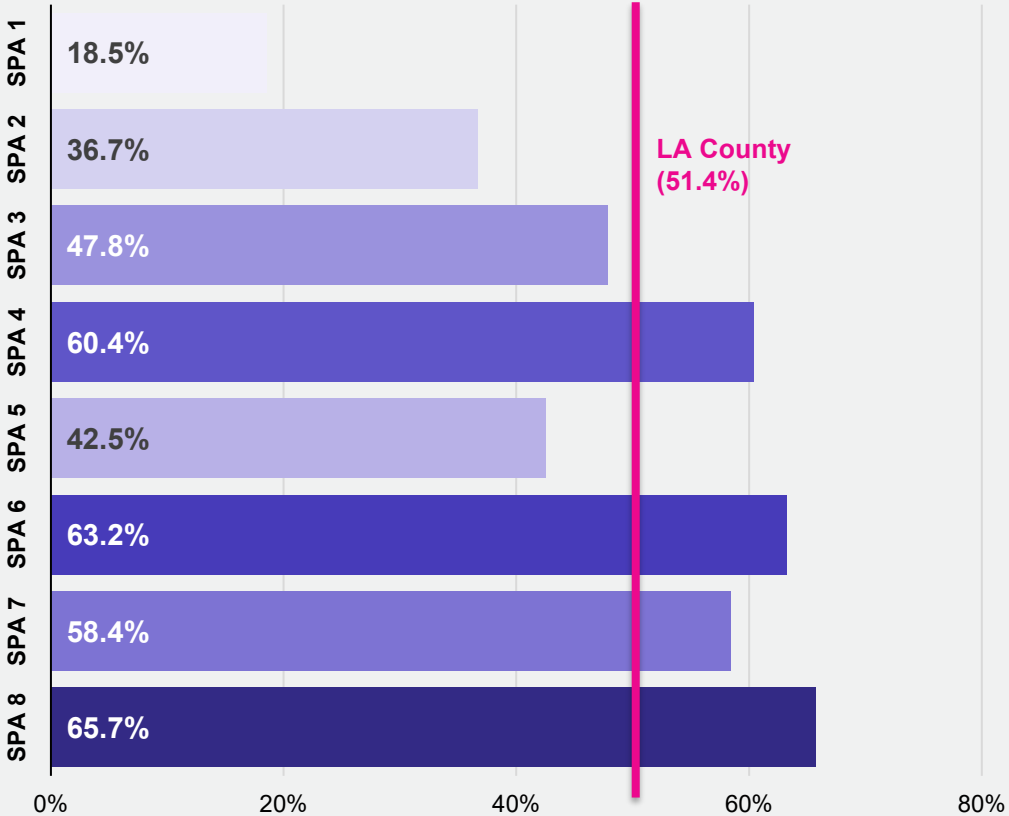
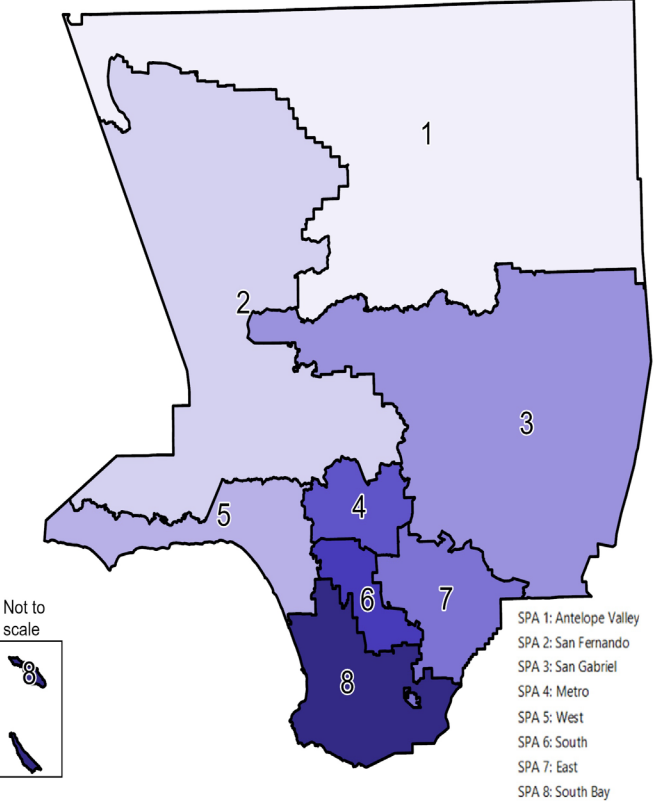
Solution Statement: *Investing in improving access to healthy food for young children in L.A. County is essential to addressing significant health disparities and food insecurity that disproportionately affect vulnerable communities.*

1. Access: In partnership with county and local community-based organizations in the food advocacy arena, **DEVELOP** a public policy agenda that elevates the food and nutritional security needs of children under 5. Work in partnership to coordinate enrollment between food, nutrition and other public benefit programs. Work with partners to expand access to culturally appropriate food and to engage diverse systems/jurisdictions to increase urban farms/community gardens in low-income areas.
2. Communications: **WORK** in partnership with others to create community-informed narratives to reduce the stigma associated with public benefit programs and to promote access to healthy foods that can uplift the importance of culturally relevant healthy choices and preparation for Black, Latinx, and Native American families.
3. Research: **WORK** with partners to research ways data can inform public policy.



Objective 2.3: Access to Parks & Open Space

Percentage of children under 5 in L.A. County living within 1/2 mile from a park, by Service Planning Area (SPA)



GOAL 2: Children age 5 and younger have nurturing relationships and environments.

OBJECTIVE 2.3: Increase the annual percent of children birth to age 5 in Los Angeles County who have access to parks and open spaces to 57% by the end of 2029.

POTENTIAL TACTICS

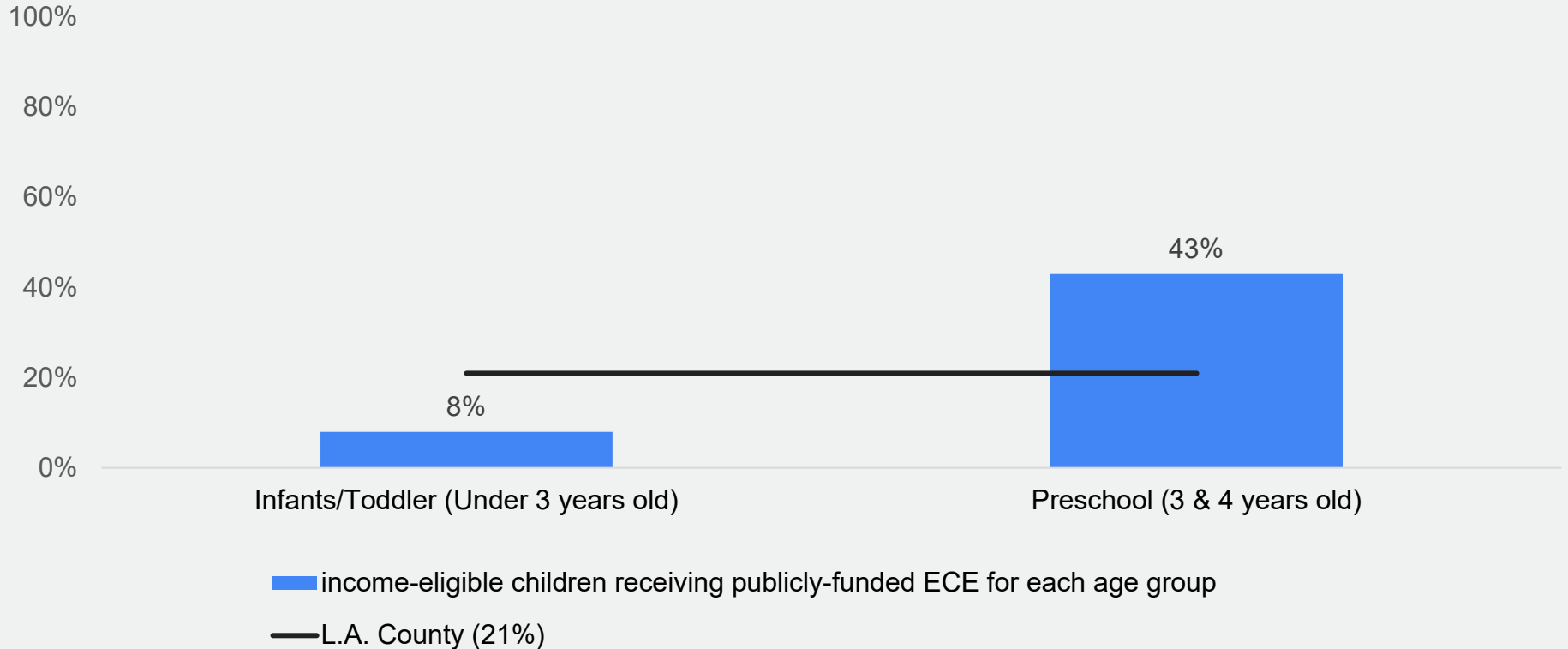
Solution Statement: *Addressing these challenges requires a focused effort on equitable park development and maintenance, ensuring all children under 5 have access to safe, nearby spaces for play and development for their growth and well-being.*

1. **Advocacy – Land Use:** **WORK** with parks agencies and community organizations to identify and develop vacant land into parks and open spaces in priority areas. Work with school districts and local governments in priority communities to open more outdoor school facilities to families for recreation outside of school hours.
2. **Data:** **CREATE** an Equity Index, inclusive of green space needs, to prioritize communities with high 0-5 populations that have low park access and historical exclusion.
3. **Engagement:** **WORK** in partnership with others to increase opportunities for community engagement to increase access, improve parks policies, and increase funding and advocacy for park access for children under age 5.



Objective 3.1: Early Care & Education

Less than 1 out of 12 income-eligible infant/toddlers is enrolled in publicly-funded Early Care and Education



GOAL 3: Children age 5 and younger have a solid foundation for well-being, lifelong learning and success.

OBJECTIVE 3.1: Increase the annual percent of children age 5 and younger in Los Angeles County receiving publicly funded early care and education in a mixed-delivery system to 25% by the end of 2029.

POTENTIAL TACTICS

Solution Statement: *Addressing these challenges requires significant public investment and systemic reform to ensure that all families have access to quality early care and education.*

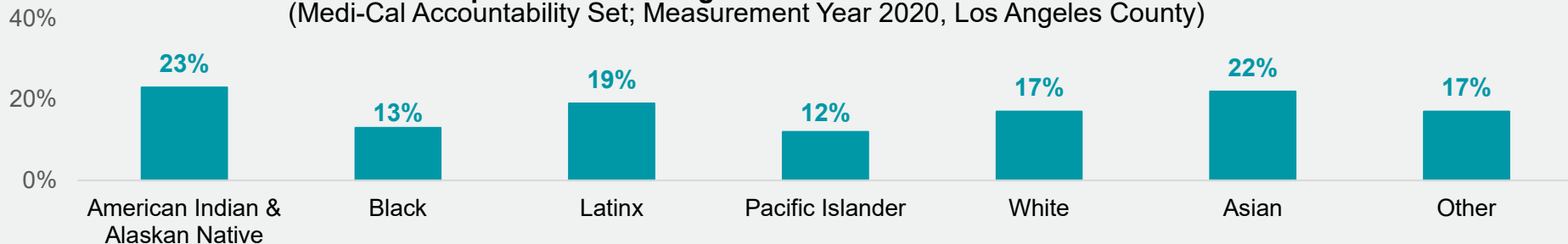
1. **Advocacy:** **WORK** with others to continue to support a coordinated network of individuals, organizations, and coalitions at the local, state, and federal levels to support comprehensive advocacy efforts to strengthen ECE coordination and monitoring. Ensure that all voices are heard including those of parents, early care providers and communities facing the legacy of bias and discrimination. Policies include, but are not limited to: (a) universal childcare, beginning with a focus on those facing opportunity inequities; (b) paid family leave; increased municipal, state, and federal ECE funding; (c) reimbursement rates based on the true cost of care (without decreasing the number of subsidies available); (d) strengthen subsidized license-exempt Family, Friend, and Neighbor care.
2. **Communications:** **PROMOTE** the narrative that ECE is a public good, not simply an individual responsibility, in order to build public support for more expansive and effective ECE policies.
3. **Research:** **SUPPORT** research efforts to better understand the evolving early care and education system and to understand the needs of families and communities so that the evolving system is responsive to the diverse needs of families.



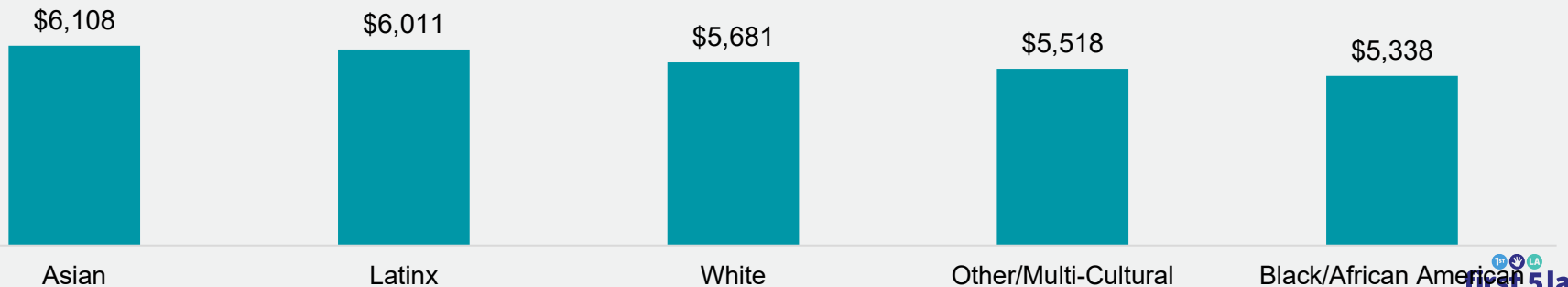
Objective 3.2 Early Intervention Services

Black infants and toddlers are less likely to have a developmental screening at their doctors and have less per capita spending for Regional Center services

Developmental Screening in the First Three Years of Life
(Medi-Cal Accountability Set; Measurement Year 2020, Los Angeles County)



Per Capita Expenditures by Regional Centers on Early Start Program Participants by Race and Ethnicity (FY22-23, Ages 0-3, Los Angeles County)



OBJECTIVE 3.2: Increase the percent of children age 5 and younger in Los Angeles County with a developmental delay receiving early intervention services by the end of 2029.

POTENTIAL TACTICS

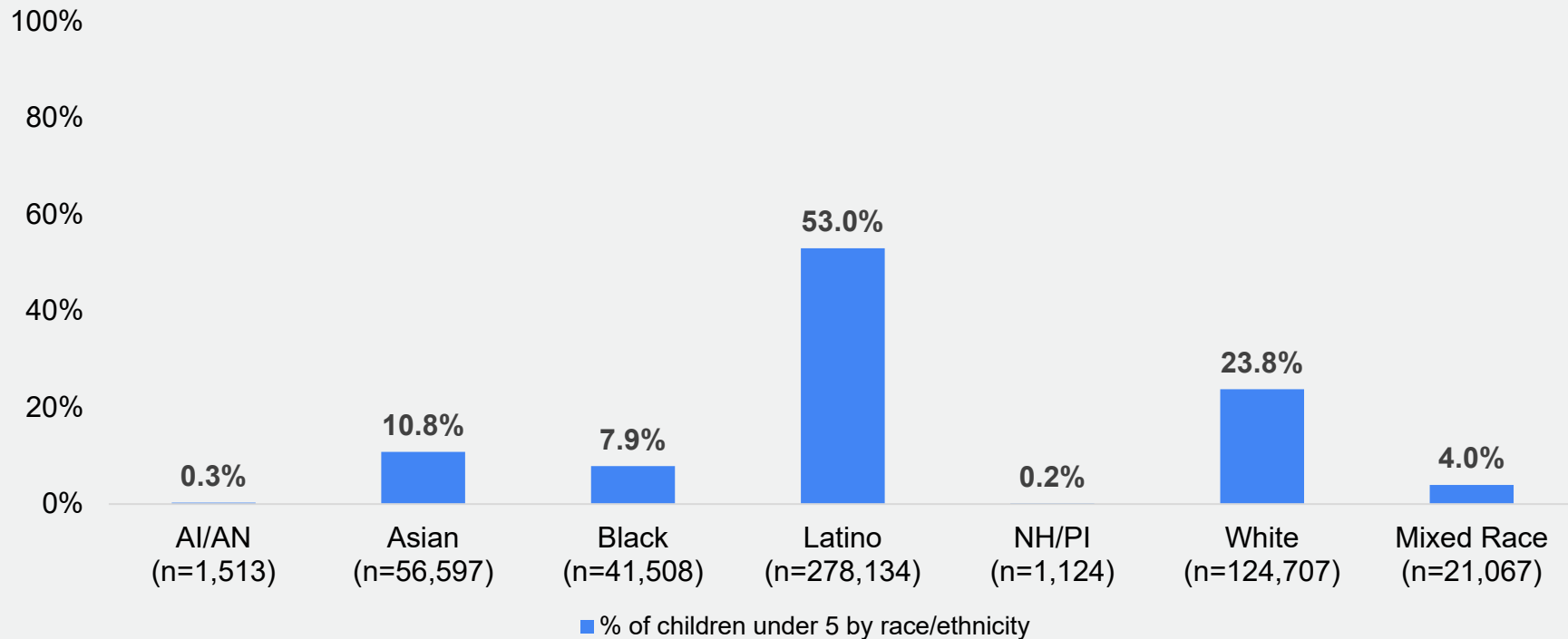
Solution Statement: *These systemic issues highlight the need for a more robust and coordinated approach to ensure equitable access to developmental screenings and early intervention services for all children, regardless of race or region.*

1. **Advocacy:** In partnership with others, **DEVELOP** a 0-5 public policy agenda that advances policies that include, but are not limited to (a) age-appropriate developmental screenings and referrals; (b) efforts to heighten health plan accountability in the provision of screening and referrals to services, as well as training of pediatric providers (including culturally appropriate services); and (c) efforts to standardize policies, procedures and practices across providers.
2. **Communications:** **PARTNER** with others and use social media to increase awareness of healthy child development, particularly targeting underserved communities.
3. **Coordination:** Building on earlier investments that created spaces and relationships between local Community-Based Organizations and partners (including regional centers), **CONTINUE TO SUPPORT** shared peer learning opportunities. Connect to health plans' closed loop referral platforms to support referrals to early intervention services, with focus on diverse organizations as part of a targeted universalism approach. Facilitate time-specific task forces comprised of cross-sector providers and people with lived experience from underrepresented communities to review and recommend (a) opportunities for technical assistance and training, (b) infrastructure supports for pediatric primary care practices, and (c) connections to Regional Centers to improve intake and application processes.
4. **Data and Planning:** **WORK** with others to track measures on which local health plans report on screening and assessment of early developmental delays in order to connect health plans to resources in the areas of early child development to enhance performance.
5. **Workforce:** **RECRUIT, RETAIN, DIVERSIFY** Early Identification and Intervention workforce for children under 5, with emphasis on hiring diverse and culturally appropriate staff, to improve staff capacity; improve reimbursement and wages to ensure living wages; and increase the peer workforce.



Objective 3.3 Culturally Affirming Services

Three out of 4 children under 5 in L.A. County are children of color



GOAL 3: Children age 5 and younger have a solid foundation for well-being, lifelong learning and success.

OBJECTIVE 3.3: Increase the annual percent of households with children age 5 and younger in Los Angeles County receiving culturally affirming services and supports by the end of 2029.

POTENTIAL TACTICS

Solution Statement: *Addressing this issue involves establishing an infrastructure that elevates culturally affirming care, services, and supports for diverse children under age 5 and families across healthcare, early care and education (ECE), and county safety-net services.*

1. Advocacy – Culturally Affirming Practices in Education Systems: **EXPLORE** working with education partners and local school districts for opportunities to ensure the implementation of universal transitional kindergarten is culturally affirming and incorporates developmentally appropriate best practices.
2. Communications: **DISSEMINATE** messages to partners, agencies, and other stakeholders underscoring the importance of the assets of children under 5 (inclusive of supporting multilingualism as a strength) and culturally affirming care, service, and support as a foundation for the well-being, life-long learning, and success of children under 5.
3. Workforce: **IMPROVE** workforce capacity through education and training on implicit bias and culturally affirming care, developmentally appropriate best practices, and supports.



DISCUSSION

- What do you like?
- Any questions?
- Critical LA County Partners?