



P R E S S R E L E A S E

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FIRST 5 SHASTA “TEMPORARY SUPPORT” FUNDING CONTINUES 0-TO-5 PROGRAMS

REDDING-----The ongoing economic crisis is challenging state-funded programs and services that benefit many of Shasta County’s most vulnerable families. “Temporary Support” grants awarded by First 5 Shasta will insure three programs continue to serve families, despite reductions or elimination of state funding. These awards are the result of a competitive funding process offered in response to intensifying financial hardship endured by local 0-to-5 programs. Without Temporary Support funding, some services would no longer be offered.

First 5 Shasta funding will sustain capacity of services through June 2010 for:

- **Child Abuse Prevention Coordinating Council** **Award: \$30,350**

Parent Partner Program Expansion

The program will add one parent partner to address the increased needs of vulnerable families.

Funding will allow Parent Partners to provide mentoring, support, and case management services to an additional 40 families through June 2010.

- **Northern Valley Catholic Social Service** **Award: \$41,625**

Teenage Pregnant and Parenting Program

Services will be provided to an additional 50 teenagers who are parenting or expecting a child.

Services include home-based case management, parenting and job training, support to complete school, substance abuse treatment, and finding quality child care.

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- **Shasta County Public Health, WIC**

Award: \$45,000

- ***Enhanced Breastfeeding Support***

“Lactation Educator Training” will be provided for staff who will serve the eastern region of Shasta County. Sixty hours per week of dedicated WIC (Women, Infants and Children) staff time will be provided for peer counseling, prenatal and post-partum breastfeeding education and support for 1,200 women at the downtown Redding office.

First 5 Shasta, the Shasta Children and Families First Commission, was established after voters passed Proposition 10 in November 1998, adding a 50 cent-per-pack tax on cigarettes to fund education, health, child care and other programs promoting early childhood development for expectant parents and children up to age five. To date, First 5 Shasta has invested over \$13 million in local projects and programs that benefit young children and families.

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