

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
January 15, 2008

CONTACT: MUFFY BERRYHILL  
530-229-8300

## COMMISSION SEEKS PROJECTS TO FUND

### Spring Round of Special Opportunity Funding Available

REDDING-----First 5 Shasta, the Shasta Children and Families First Commission, announces the opening of a new round of “Special Opportunity” funding. The Spring 2008 Special Opportunity funding round has the potential to award up to \$80,000 to a variety of qualifying projects. The funding opportunity is available to interested organizations, community groups and individuals in Shasta County for projects that serve children, pre-natal-to-five years of age and their families *and* are related to the vision, mission, goals and objectives of First 5 Shasta.

Funding requests in amounts from \$5,000 to \$20,000 will be considered. A special funding scale inviting requests in amounts from \$1,500 to \$20,000 is available to licensed family child care providers. The first step in pursuing Special Opportunity funding is for interested parties to discuss project ideas with First 5 Shasta’s Executive Director. The Spring proposal deadline is **February 29, 2008**.

To obtain more information about Special Opportunity Funding, visit First 5 Shasta’s web site at [first5shasta.org](http://first5shasta.org) or call 530-229-8300.

First 5 Shasta 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 to promote early childhood development for expectant parents and children up to age five. To date, First 5 Shasta has invested approximately \$12 million in the Shasta County community.

###