

Year 3 Proposal to Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation From First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission

INVESTMENT SUCCESSES SUPPORTING FAMILIES: BASIC NEEDS ASSISTANCE AND TENANT IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE VALLEJO FIRST 5 CENTER

Basic Needs Assistance Fund

In 2018 the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation continued the second year of an investment by providing \$200,000 to support families in meeting their basic needs. This funding assisted families in crisis and provided critical support for families facing unexpected hardships. Community awareness about the availability of Yocha Dehe funds to help families in need has spread throughout the county and many of our community partners have expressed gratitude that they have resources to assist families.

From November 2018 through August 2019, 355 families made up of 1,343 individuals in Solano have been positively impacted by this program. Over the two years of partnership with Yocha Dehe nearly 3,000 people have been assisted and had their lives positively changed. The primary basic needs supports continue to be for housing and utility costs, and many families remain engaged with their local Family Resource Center and are able to work toward family goals to mitigate future financial hardships.

Tenant Improvements for the Vallejo First 5 Center

From Vision to Action! Over the last year, First 5 Solano has been working diligently to make the vision of the Vallejo First 5 Center a reality. The site selection process focused on finding a location close to the census tracts with the highest rates of childhood poverty in the county (69% and 78% childhood poverty). A lease for an 8,900 sq. ft. space adjacent to these census tracts was finalized in March of 2019.



**Bringing the spirit of
“Doyuti T’uhkama”
to the Vallejo First 5 Center!**

The space design and tenant improvement plan was finalized in June 2019. Highlights of the plan include:

- ❖ A Center design with a nature-based open play area for little ones to expend their energy and have a safe and age appropriate space to play and learn.
- ❖ Three activity rooms for early learning, school readiness, and parent child interaction classes.
- ❖ Offices and casual spaces for multiple community partners to provide integrated on-site services.

The \$300,000 investment by the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation has provided for the initial construction including framing, drywall, electrical, and plumbing for all areas of the center. The Grand Opening is slated for January 2020 and we are thrilled to honor Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation as one of our premier partners!

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2019 SUPPORTING FAMILIES PROPOSAL: BASIC NEEDS ASSISTANCE & FAMILY SELF-SUFFICIENCY SERVICES, and PROGRAM FUNDING FOR THE VALLEJO FIRST 5 CENTER

The First 5 Solano proposal to the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation is \$500,000, as follows:

- 1. \$200,000 to continue the successful partnership with the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation to provide basic needs assistance for a family in crisis and assist families in obtaining self-sufficiency.**
- 2. \$300,000 to provide program funding for the Vallejo First 5 Center. This investment will further the support provided for tenant improvements by supporting programming to lift up families in one of the most marginalized communities in the County.**

BASIC NEEDS ASSISTANCE AND FINANCIAL LITERACY TRAINING

First 5 Solano will continue to administer the highly successful Basic Needs Assistance Fund to support families in crisis. Funding will be available throughout the County and also may include services to assist families in obtaining self-sufficiency.

VALLEJO FIRST 5 CENTER – PROGRAM FUNDING

Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation was a key partner in assisting First 5 Solano in establishing a First 5 Center in the highest poverty area of Vallejo by providing \$300,000 toward tenant improvements to make the building an ideal location for children and families.

The planned opening for the Vallejo First 5 Center is January 2020. A full range of learning opportunities will be offered for children 0-5 and their parents or caregivers to engage together, including healthy eating/active living, early learning, and school readiness. There will also be activities to encourage creativity including art, music, dance and movement. The open play area will be a safe and inviting space for young children to explore and parents to connect with the children, staff, and each other. (See Attachment A – Center Programming)

The center will provide a safe and welcoming environment for parents to connect with many different programs and resources. One aspect will be on-site assistance and supportive services for women, men and children who are experiencing domestic violence. In addition, the center will be equipped with technology to support forensic interviews for children.

VALLEJO FIRST 5 CENTER BACKGROUND:

In Solano County, Vallejo's children are at the highest risk for poor outcomes based on 9 common indicators of child well-being, such as preschool enrollment, 3rd grade reading and math, poverty, and unemployment. These high-risk factors along with lack of accessible resources result in a community in great need.

We intend to break this cycle of negative outcomes for a new generation of children. The Vallejo First 5 Center will be a "One Stop" location to provide dual-generation services for Solano's children and families with a focus on those with the most needs. Families visiting the First 5 Center with their kids will be equipped with the tools and resources to support their child's healthy development and school readiness.

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Center staff and on-site partners will connect families to community resources such as health care, mental health services, job coaching, vocational training, childcare, early intervention services, CalWORKs, CalFresh, crisis response and domestic violence intervention, immigration services and other family supports. All services will be family centered, culturally appropriate, and trauma informed.

Construction Update

Construction is well underway at the Vallejo First 5 Center in Vallejo. The following significant activities have taken place:

- Walls have been framed, insulated, drywalled and painting has begun
- Electrical has been run, including moving 3 electrical panels
- Finishes have been selected and ordered
- Plumbing is in progress
- Furniture has been ordered
- IT/AV equipment has been ordered and is scheduled for installation
- Signs are approved and in fabrication
- An HVAC vendor has been secured to replace the main Center unit and new ducting is being manufactured

Final steps include:

- Replacing HVAC unit and ducting
- Installing cabinetry, flooring, and play equipment
- Installing required and wayfinding signage
- Complete plumbing, drywall, cabinetry, and flooring
- Secure occupancy by the City of Vallejo



Large Play Room for drop in learning activities and families to build community.



Activity Room for parent/child interaction classes.



Donor wall flowers in production.

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The following chart details the programs that will be supported by the \$500,000 investment:

Program	Description	Proposed Budget
Basic Needs Assistance & Family Self-Sufficiency Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Basic Needs assistance for a family in crisis, such as assisting with rental payments, utilities, food or other urgent needs. - Connecting families to resources to help them stabilize. - Identifying programs that families can access such as Medi-Cal, CalFresh, & Health Insurance. 	\$200,000
Early Learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide a variety of themed classes for parents & children ages 0-3 to participate together. - Class structure will include story time, music and opportunities for social emotional skills building while receiving exposure to early learning subjects including literacy, math, science, communication, physical activity and more. 	\$100,000
School Readiness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide a variety of themed classes for parents & children ages 3-5 to participate together to increase school readiness. Will include science, technology, art, math, literacy and social emotional themes. - Provide Roadmap to Kindergarten classes for parents and their preschool age children 	\$100,000
Social Engagement & Peer Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Facilitated playgroups will provide parents with tools to observe their child engaging with open ended activities. Parents will document children's actions, reflect on meaning, and create a plan to respond to child's behavior and encourage additional learning. Parents will be taught how to recognize their child's development stages and anticipate the next area of growth. 	\$50,000
Community Resource Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Community Resource Specialist will conduct one-on-one consultations with parents to provide information, referrals and warm hand-offs to community partners and Solano County agencies. - The Community Resource Specialist will also coordinate all the partners who will be providing on-site service. 	\$50,000
Total		\$500,000