

**Executive Director/Staff Report  
October 2018**

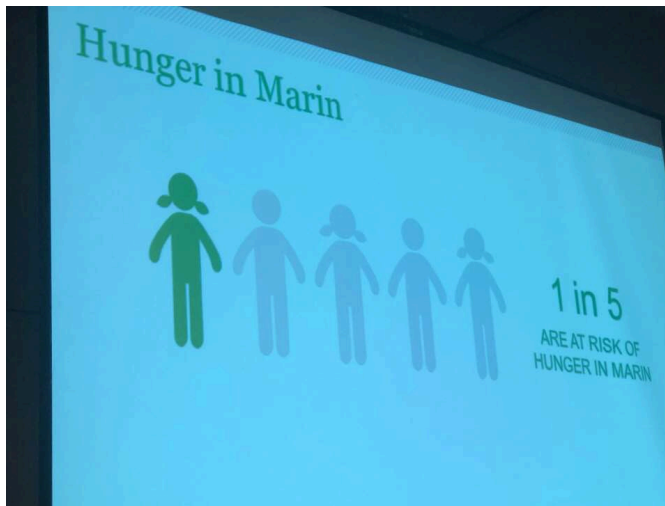
**Public Policy and Communications**



**First 5 Express** – Celebrating the **20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of First 5** with a **Healthy Family Fun Day – Saturday, October 27<sup>th</sup> at McNeers Beach Park**. First 5 Marin is partnering with Marin County Parks to plan free event for children and families, with the “First 5 Express” and fun activities including puppets, a bilingual preschool library, karaoke for kids, and resources for parents. Marin County Parks will bring their “Roving Ranger” and some of our community partners will be hosting additional activities such as: rock painting (Marin City Library), arts & crafts + pumpkin decorating (Family & Children Law Center); music and movement (MC3/Parent Voices); Champions for Change (HHS) and additional activities from Marin Community Clinics and Community Action Marin. We will also have oral health screenings (HHS), EITC info (CAM); the FLAGship bus will be there with fun learning activities... and much more!

**Commissioners**-- *Let us know if you have a friend or know an organization that might like to host: face painting, balloons, bubbles, musical performances, puppets etc. Also, flyers are available in English and Spanish—help us spread the word! Contact [Michelle@First5Marin.org](mailto:Michelle@First5Marin.org).*

**Marin Communications Forum** – the monthly forums continue with strong attendance and a very positive response from the community. Recent forums included:



**Hunger Action Month/HEAL** – 150 people attended the Hunger Forum on September 24<sup>th</sup>. This event included an opening presentation on food insecurity and missing meals in Marin from the San Francisco-Marin Food Bank; the launch of “HEAL 2.0” by Marin County Health & Human Services (a new initiative focused on reducing missing meals); the launch of a “Food Now” app; and the showcasing of community food systems reducing hunger in Marin, including: Marin Child Care Council; San Rafael City Schools; Covia; Marin Interfaith Council; ExtraFood.org; Ceres; Agricultural Institute of Marin; and Marin City Health & Wellness. Attendees were very enthusiastic and appreciative.

**COMING SOON:**

- **October 29: Health Equity in Marin** – This forum is a “Bi-National Health Week” event, and will begin with a greeting from the Consul General of Guatemala. We will feature a report called, “Healthy Mind, Healthy Future: Promoting the Mental Health and Wellbeing of Children in Immigrant Families,” by The Children’s Partnership and The California Immigrant Policy Center. There will also be a presentation on health disparities in Marin, and we will showcase several organizations in Marin County that are working to improve health outcomes for all.
- **November 19: pending!**
- **December 14<sup>th</sup>: Legislative Updates with Assemblyman Marc Levine and State Senator Mike McGuire** - Marin’s state representatives will address the Marin Communications to report on the last legislative session and to preview bills they plan to introduce in 2019. RSVP to [Michelle@First5Marin.org](mailto:Michelle@First5Marin.org).
- **January 28, 2019: Oral Health** – Michelle is working with Marin County Health and Human Services and will be pre-planning this forum to promote “Children’s Dental Health Month” in February. *Save-the-date!*

**Public Charge** – Amy and Michelle continue working with community partners on the “public charge” issue. The proposed changes were posted to the Federal Register on October 10<sup>th</sup>, triggering a 60 day public comment period. The working group is focused on public information and outreach, and support for the public comment process.

[Public charge is a phrase used in immigration law that allows federal authorities to deny legal status changes (entry to the United States or issuance of a “green card” for permanent residency) to people receiving certain types of financial benefits (cash assistance or long-term institutionalized medical care). The Trump administration is proposing significant changes to the “public charge question” that could

impact many more people receiving many more types of public benefits (such as CalFresh, MediCare/MediCal, and Section 8 housing).

Amy has been collaborating with leaders from Marin County Health and Human Services, Marin Community Foundation and other community partners to develop strategy and coordinate a community response. Michelle is heading the Communications Subcommittee, which has developed an informational flyer, FAQs and talking points; she also designed a website/landing page where information is shared and documents are posted. For more information, see: <https://www.marinhhs.org/public-charge>.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES**

Work on the Annual Audit was completed and the Finance Committee met with the auditors on October 10<sup>th</sup> to review and approve the report. The final will be forwarded to Commissioners under separate cover.

Much of the month was spent on Public Charge work (see report above) and prearing for the Help Me Grow leadership team meeting. The meeting was held on October 8<sup>th</sup> and was quite successful. We had six community members, all departments of DHHS, community organizations and health clinics present. The meeting was conducted in Spanish and English and childcare and dinner were provided. The group gave important input on how a central access point should be structured, which type of organization would be best suited to housing the call-line, and general ideas about how to make it as efficient and high-quality as possible. It is very exciting to see the a true HMG effort taking shape.

Shirin (MCF) and Amy have been working with Redwood Community Health Center on their proposal for renewal grant for outreach and enrollment and training for FY1819. The proposal and requested allocation will be presented at the October meeting.

Meetings

First 5 Association	Marinkids Board Meeting
ECE Work Group/Rise Together	HMG Planning Work Groups
Food Now Task force and Stearing Comm – HEAL	Protecting Immigrant Families
Public Charge Work Group	Marin Equity Initiative
HMG Statewide Conference	Advancement Project Water Cooler Conference
Power of Nine/Rise Together	