Children are ready for Kindergarten and 3rd grade success

1 / Increased access to school readiness services for children 0-5 and their families

2 / Increased knowledge and use of best practices in early childhood and parent support at libraries, and park and recreation institutions

3 / Increased collaboration between these public institutions, school districts, and community based organizations

4 / Increased capacity for and commitment to sustainable early childhood programming at neighborhood based public institutions
The vision of the Neighborhood Partnership is for every family, especially those whose children do not attend preschool, to have opportunities for joyful, play based, adult-child school readiness activities in their neighborhood. In order to make this vision a reality, First 5 Alameda County invested $1.98M in capacity building grants and provided extensive training and consultation for 12 library and parks and recreation institutions over 7.5 years. Each institution was able to participate in up to 2 cycles of grant funding and then continue to participate in training and consultation. In all over 100 staff were trained and over 2000 hours of staff training, consultation and coaching was provided. Neighborhood Partner institutions were able to bring Kindergarten Readiness services to 24 underserved communities, increasing access to K-readiness services and use of best practices in early childhood and parent support; and strengthen the institution’s capacity for and commitment to sustained early childhood programming.

**Snap Shot of Families Served 2015-16**

- 599 unduplicated parents and caregivers of children birth to 5 participated in playgroups and/or parent education

**Parents/Caregivers Surveyed**

- 88% report that their child had not been enrolled in licensed child care (including preschool)
- 97% report that the services were respectful of their personal background
- 91% report learning something new about their child’s strengths or needs because of their participation
- 87% report knowing more about how to help their child express their emotions in a positive way
- 86% report playing more with their child
- 71% report doing things differently as a family because of their participation, including interacting and communicating more as a family and doing more reading, singing, play, and learning activities.

**Partner Institutions**

Alameda County Library • Alameda Free Library • Alameda Recreation and Parks Department • City of Berkeley, Recreation Division • Hayward Area Recreation and Park District • Hayward Public Library • Livermore Area Recreation and Park District • Oakland Parks, Recreation and Youth Development • Oakland Public Library • San Leandro Public Library • San Leandro Recreation and Human Services • Union City Community & Recreation Services