



DISTRICT 2: EARLY CHILDHOOD INVESTMENTS

Building an early childhood system that works for all families



This profile provides a snapshot of First 5 Alameda's investments in Supervisorial District 2 over the past year.

First 5's "whole community, whole family, whole child" approach requires robust partnerships, deep collaboration across systems, and strategic fiscal policy. We aim to create conditions in community and systems that support the well-being and success of all families and children in Alameda County.



Kindergarten readiness assessments for every public school kindergarten classroom



Training and coaching for child care providers, assistance for people trying to start child care businesses



Improved facilities to provide safe spaces

WHO WE PARTNER WITH IN ALAMEDA COUNTY



21.8+
Children



13.9k+
Parents / Caregivers



5k+
Providers

EARLY CHILDHOOD: DISTRICT 1 AT A GLANCE

FAMILY DEMOGRAPHICS	COUNTY	DISTRICT 1	DISTRICT 2	DISTRICT 3	DISTRICT 4	DISTRICT 5
Total Population ¹	1,663,823	343,599	336,644 (20%)	321,530	332,915	329,136
Babies Born (2021) ²	16,900	3,865	3,818 (23%)	3,210	3,552	2,455
Children <6 (2022) ³	109,579	26,151	22,371 (20%)	20,494	23,478	17,085
Families/Households With Children <6 (2022)	70,684	18,616	14,359 (20%)	12,266	14,241	11,202
Children 0-5 Enrolled in Medi-Cal ⁵	32,008	2,723	7,691 (24%)	9,200	8,621	3,773
Children 0-6 Enrolled in CalFresh ⁵	12,182	833	2,503 (21%)	3,596	3,575	1,676

THE CHALLENGE

Accessing quality child care is a financial burden for families in Alameda County

According to the Department of Health and Human Services, childcare is affordable if it costs households no more than 7% of their income. In reality, 1/3 of a family's income is going towards child care based on a family of two parents, one infant, and one preschooler.⁶

CHILD CARE COSTS FOR A FAMILY OF FOUR⁷



\$171,000

income required to meet a family's basic needs. Based on a family of two working adults and two children ages 0-3⁷



\$128,168

gap between the income required to meet basic needs and the income of a family living at the Federal Poverty Level (FPL)⁸



\$64,000

income of two full-time workers at California minimum wage⁹



\$31,200

2024 Federal Poverty Level (FPL) for a family of 4, 7.5% of families with children live under the FPL in Alameda County¹⁰

THE SOLUTION

Narrowing the gap between need and access to affordable child care

Our investments improve the quality of early care and education, increase the number of child care slots available, and support families and providers who receive subsidies. Increasing wages for child care providers is an important step toward solving affordability challenges, as low pay—just \$15.38 for Family Child Care workers and \$19.52 for Center staff in Alameda County—drives workforce shortages that limit access and raise costs for families.¹⁷

SUBSIDIZED CARE*	COUNTY	DISTRICT 2
Need ¹¹ Children <85% SMI (2020)	52,627	12,700 (24%)
Recipients ¹² Utilizing Subsidized Care	10,686	2,318 (22%)

***Subsidized Care:** Subsidized child care programs include alternative payment vouchers (AP) and programs with contracted slots such as CSPP, CCTR, and Head Start/Early Head Start. In FY24-25, 85% of State Medium Income (SMI) is \$104,544.

LICENSED CARE CAPACITY**	COUNTY	DISTRICT 2
Need ¹³ Children <6 with parents in the labor force	72,854	15,378 (21%)
Slots ¹⁴ Licensed Capacity (2021)	37,397	6,325 (17%)

****License Care Capacity:** The licensed capacity of a child care facility is the maximum number of children that a site is licensed to care for at one time. Total slots does not include school-aged licenses for centers but does include all-ages for known family child care homes.

KINDERGARTEN READINESS

A New Era

Kindergarten readiness in Alameda County

Decades of research have demonstrated that the period from birth to age five is not just a phase but **the most** critical window of opportunity to positively impact a child's future. Kindergarten readiness is a powerful indicator of longer-term success, as we know that children who start behind struggle to catch up. Because of this, First 5 is focused on increasing the percentage of kids ready for kindergarten, to hold ourselves accountable, we need reliable and repeatable measurements.

Thirteen out of 18 school districts in Alameda County unanimously supported the adoption of the Early Development Instrument (EDI) as the new tool for the kindergarten readiness community study. After teachers complete the EDI on each child in their class, the results are grouped together to give a snapshot of the assets and potential areas for investment in neighborhoods, cities and Board of Supervisor Districts by public agencies and private funders.

Developed over nearly 30 years, the EDI is a population-based measure of early child development in five key developmental areas: physical health, social competence, emotional maturity, language and cognitive development, and communications skills and general knowledge.

First 5 Alameda County will partner with the UCLA Center for Healthier Children, Families, and Communities, families, and school districts in the county to gather and analyze EDI data. The EDI is used throughout the country and internationally and is found to be a reliable indicator of children's readiness for kindergarten.

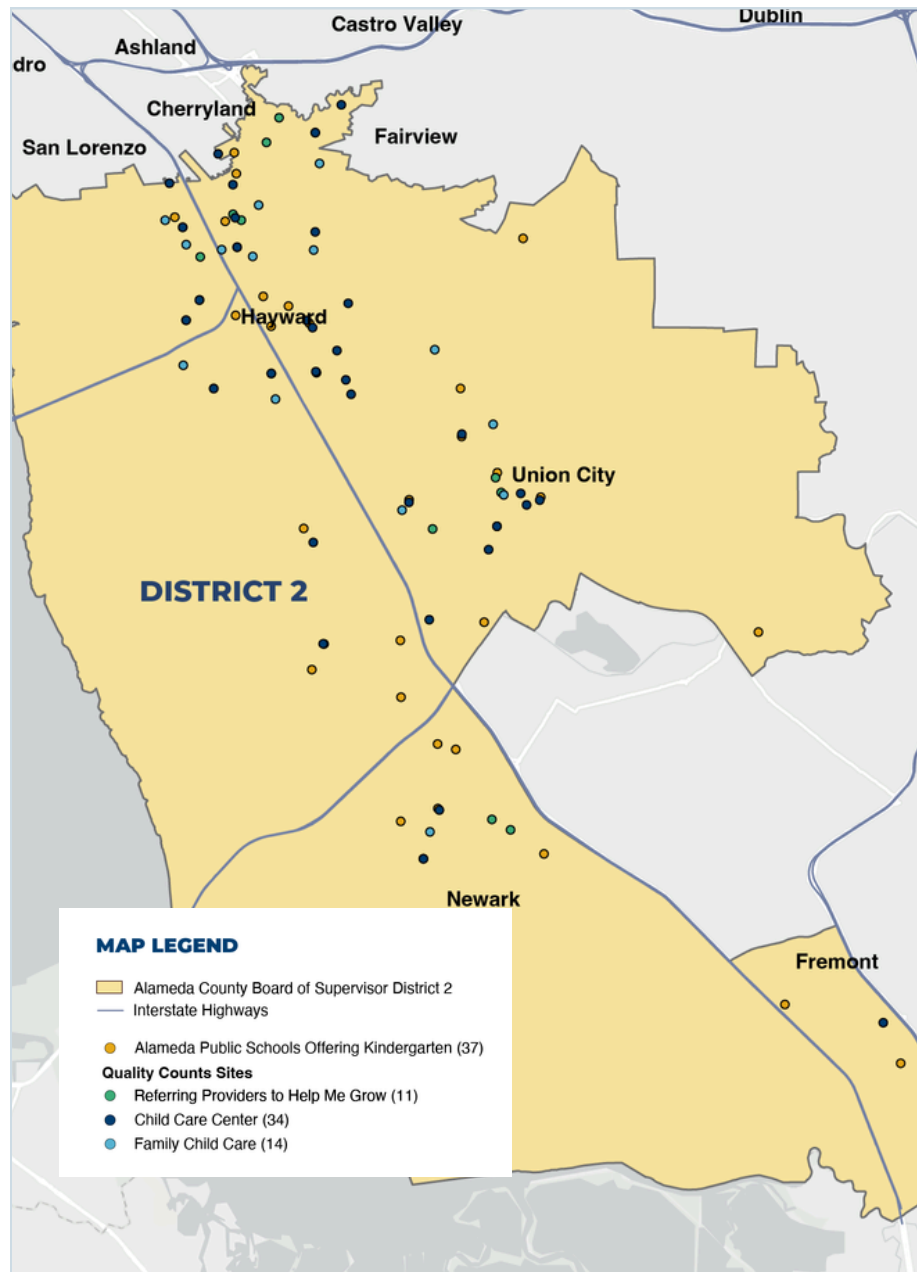


children who are not ready for kindergarten continue to struggle academically in third grade, an academic milestone marking success in later years.¹⁵

OVER 150 SCHOOLS ACROSS ALAMEDA COUNTY INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW KINDERGARTEN READINESS TOOL

DISTRICT	CITY	# SCHOOLS	# CHILDREN
1	Dublin	8	856
	Fremont	22	1,411
	Livermore	10	753
	Pleasanton	1	48
	Sunol	1	21
2	Fremont	6	679
	Hayward	17	1,054
	Newark	5	348
	Union City	7	605
3	Alameda	9	613
	Hayward	1	62
	Oakland	15	822
	San Leandro	10	729
	San Lorenzo	3	146
4	Castro Valley	9	600
	Hayward	4	274
	Oakland	23	1,165
	Pleasanton	9	602
	San Leandro	1	54
	San Lorenzo	1	79
5	Berkeley	12	563
	Emeryville	1	42
	Oakland	13	647

WHAT WE FUND



FINANCIAL STABILITY	THRIVING NEIGHBORHOODS
Alameda County Social Services Agency \$250,000 Help A Mother Out \$318,000	Union City Family Center \$464,477 Supply Bank \$225,000
FAMILY HEALTH & WELL-BEING	EARLY CARE & EDUCATION
Alameda County Public Health Department \$250,000 Family Resource Navigators \$523,814 Fatherhood Partnership Grants \$75,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ 4Cs of Alameda County ▶ Realized Potential Incorporated ▶ Hayward Unified School District Birth Equity Work Through Parent Partnership \$487,174 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Honoring & Unifying Gatherings (HUGs) ▶ Midnight Milk Club (MMC) ▶ Narrative Nation Irth App Project ▶ The B.L.A.C.K Course Dads Evoking Change \$10,000	BANANAS, Hively & Community Child Care Council (4Cs) of Alameda County \$894,732 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ QRIS Coaching and TA ▶ Training and playgroups for FFNs and training for FCC providers ▶ Family Navigation YMCA of the East Bay \$554,084 California School-Age Consortium (CalSAC) (AB212) \$404,871 Center for the Study of Child Care Employment \$250,282 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ CalWORKS Apprenticeship Program ▶ SEQUAL Study

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16. CA Department of Education. "Enrollment by Grade Level - District: 2023-24". DataQuest, 2024.
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