

California Department of Education, California Health and Human Services Agency, and First 5 California Partnership and Collaboration

During the closing panel of the 2015 Child Health, Education, and Care Summit, State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson, Secretary of the California Health and Human Services Agency (CHHS) Diana Dooley, and First 5 California State Commission Chair George Halvorson agreed their respective agencies will work in partnership and collaboration on the following:

1. All three agencies committed to working smarter and together on serving young children and families, in coordination with their local agency partners.
2. The California Department of Education (CDE), CHSS, and First 5 California will work together to develop a small number of common data indicators across the work of all three agencies and promote them among other entities that work with children and families. The purpose of selecting common indicators is to promote a common agenda, converge outcomes, increase the ability to share existing data in a safe and secure manner, and increase the collective impact of mutual work.
3. CHHS and CDE will share First 5 California's goal that more parents and caregivers understand the importance of the brain science, with the specific goal that at least 90 percent of new California mothers each year will understand that 90 percent of a child's brain development happens in the first five years.