



JANUARY 19, 2023

INFORMATION ACTION

SUBJECT: STRATEGIC VISIONING UPDATE

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

Commissioners will be presented with preliminary findings and recommendations summarizing the Arabella Advisors consulting engagement. Though the Arabella team will not have completed their work at the time of the Commission meeting, this summary update will provide an overview of salient findings.

First 5 California (F5CA) began work with Arabella Advisors to assess its strategic vision as it relates to the North Star, the organization's strengths, and opportunities to fulfill the North Star and Audacious Goal. The Arabella team interviewed 18 external stakeholders and Commissioners to hear their perspective on the North Star, Audacious Goal, and F5CA's Strategic Plan. Arabella conducted four focus groups with approximately 25 F5CA staff, asking their opinions on F5CA's strategy, culture, and programs.

An update will be provided on the assessment and potential recommendations. A road map will still be in development through the end of January, so Commissioners are not being asked to review the final deliverable. The Arabella team anticipates that the road map will outline considerations for the F5CA team to align strategic priorities with the organization's culture, structure, and decision-making processes.

BACKGROUND

F5CA's partnership with Arabella Advisors began in August 2022 through a subcontracting partnership with the California Health and Human Services and WestEd as part of the Preschool Development Grant Renewal. Arabella Advisors is an award-winning consulting firm and certified B Corporation that is dedicated to making philanthropic work more efficient, effective, and equitable. The Arabella team has been working with F5CA over the last several months to assess the ways that it is meeting its strategic vision, what barriers there are to meeting those goals, and to offer recommendations in an implementation road map for the future.

SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS COMMISSION DISCUSSION AND ACTION

The Commission has not previously discussed or taken action on this subject.

ATTACHMENTS

None.