



First 5 Plumas Year End Evaluation Report 2025-2026



FIRST 5
P L U M A S

Plumas County Children and Families Commission

FIRST 5 PLUMAS YEAR END EVALUATION REPORT

JULY 1, 2025 –JUNE 30, 2026

WHAT IS FIRST 5?

First 5 Plumas was formed following the passage of California Proposition 10 (Prop 10). The Prop 10 initiative added a 50-cent-per-pack tax on cigarette sales to fund programs promoting early childhood development for children, ages prenatal to 5 years, and their families. First 5 Plumas operates on an annual budget of approximately \$350,000 made up primarily of Prop 10 funds. As a small county, First 5 Plumas is dependent on small county augmentation funds provided by First 5 California. It also draws down Medi-Cal Administrative Activities (MAA) funds and has Partnership Healthcare Plan grant funding. Combined, these funds are used to provide services and make system improvements supportive of young children and their families in Plumas County.

HOW DOES FIRST 5 INVEST IN FAMILIES?

First 5 Plumas provides community grants and direct services including group support, parent trainings, concrete support in times of need, and home visiting programs. First 5 Plumas is currently developing a Welcome Baby Program which aligns Help Me Grow and utilizes targeted universalism as it's framework. The program will offer home visits and resources to expectant and new parents, including guidance, risk assessment, and referrals to partners and other community services. First 5 Plumas supports community home visiting programs, [Help Me Grow Plumas](#) (which provides resource and service navigation to families to help support child development), a parent education course, playgroups, and other concrete supports including:

Roundhouse Council

Roundhouse Council offers playgroups and home visiting services to Native American families with children ages 0-5 years. Case management, literacy supports, playgroups, child development screenings, and activities are provided to families.

Plumas Unified School District

The Early Intervention Specialist at Plumas Unified School District provides home visiting services to children from birth up to age 3 who have been identified with a developmental delay. Services are customized according to families' needs.

First 5 Plumas Direct Services

First 5 Plumas Family Service Coordinators provide group support, home visits, service navigation, and playgroups for families with children from prenatal to age 5. By building trusting relationships with primary caregivers, they strengthen healthy parenting practices through the Five Protective Factors and self-care habits. They also ensure parents and advocates are engaged, empowered, and fully informed about children's educational and disability rights, offering materials, one-on-one discussions, and ongoing support.

Home visits add child development activities and help families navigate services. Through the Help Me Grow program, coordinators support developmental screening outreach, referrals, and resources. They also develop culturally relevant outreach, newsletters, community meeting, and event participation, and connect families to oral health, early intervention, and health education services.

Lost Sierra Kids

Lost Sierra Kids is a local nonprofit in Graeagle, CA that provides playgroups and creates nature-rooted, community-centered learning experiences for local families supporting healthy early childhood development.

Mindful Nurturing Parenting Training Series

The Plumas Rural Services [Mindful Nurturing Parenting course](#) helps caregivers of children 0-5 interact with children more mindfully and with less stress. The program provides incentives and one-on-one support.

Diaper Bank

The Plumas Crisis Intervention & Resource Center and First 5 Plumas have partnered to provide diapers to families exhibiting emergent needs. When diapers are provided, the Crisis Center will provide First 5 Plumas with referrals so we can follow up with families



about any additional needs. The goals for parents are: to be able to respond to their child's needs, provide a safe and nurturing environment and receive referrals to additional services or resources, if needed. Behavioral Health Wellness Centers in Chester and Portola also distribute diapers that First 5 Plumas purchases.

Plumas STARS

First 5 Plumas is the lead organization for Plumas County's Child Care Improvement Consortium and contracts with Plumas Rural Services to implement Plumas STARS, a program that works with providers to improve the quality of early education and care.

WHY DOES FIRST 5 EVALUATE ITS EFFORTS?

Each First 5 Commission is accountable for measuring results of funded programs and adjusting investment priorities to best achieve results for children and families. Evaluation permits the First 5 Plumas Commission (referred to as "the Commission") and the community to track progress toward goals and to continuously improve efforts to impact the community.

- This report is meant to provide a snapshot of First 5 Plumas programs, offering the Commission and funded partner agencies information about strengths and adjustments necessary to achieve the Commission's strategic plan goals and objectives.

First 5 Plumas evaluates four focus areas:

- **Family Function**
- **Child Development**
- **Child Health**
- **Systems of Care**



This report outlines activities completed and performance measures based on data and documentation collected to assess implementation progress, quality improvement efforts, and the impact of local activities.

Contextual Information for Evaluation Report:

- The 2025-26 fiscal year marks a shift in First 5 Plumas funding, from primarily supporting the Plumas County Public Health Family First Home Visiting Program, which is now fully funded and did not apply this year, to funding service gaps in the community.
- First 5 Plumas is also transitioning to being a Medi-Cal covered entity and to providing Community Health Worker benefits to Medi-Cal clients.
- The Community Health Worker Program (Welcome Baby) was not implemented in 2025-26 and intake data was not collected.
- There will be a new data system to support Welcome Baby and Help Me Grow Plumas, which is HIPAA compliant and includes a third party billing system.

Improved Family Function

First 5 Plumas Family Supports

First 5 Plumas provides family support including playgroups, pop-up preschool, support groups, home visits, and parent trainings. Connecting with families during social activities fosters trust, builds relationships, and provides an opportunity to share information. Children develop skills in a group environment and participate in school readiness activities.

There were **140** playgroups, walking/strider bike groups, and pop-up preschools offered by First 5 Plumas, including offerings in all four communities, during the 2025-26 fiscal year.

67 families were served by First 5 Plumas playgroups, pop-up preschool, and walking groups. Plumas County First 5 Playgroups were offered in Portola, Quincy, Chester (summer only), Greenville (Tot Town Playgroups in May and June only). There were additional groups offered by Roundhouse Council and Lost Sierra Kids, partially funded by First 5 Plumas.



67

Families received group support services



71

Parents, caregivers and other **adults that received services**



94

Children ages 0 through 5 **lived in households that received home visiting services**

Playgroup Service Contacts:

First 5 Plumas groups

Greenville: 21

Portola: 594

Quincy: 1,366

Roundhouse Council: 356

Lost Sierra Kids: 1,043

TOTAL: 3,380



Impact of First 5 Family Supports

48 Family Satisfaction surveys were completed during FY 25-26. Surveys are distributed at 10 week intervals and families voluntarily complete them in a group setting. The majority of all answers indicate that families either strongly agreed or agreed that they were satisfied with group support programs and that they benefited from the services provided.

“This group has literally saved my life. I was in a very dark place before I started coming here.”

Parent’s comment

Strengthening Family Questions include:

1. This program has helped me improve my parenting skills. 4.8/5
2. This program has helped me reduce stress in my life. 4.5/5
3. My ideas and opinions are welcomed and included in the program. 4.7/5
4. I feel that the program staff respect me. 4.5/5
5. This program is helping me reach my goals for my family and for me. 4.7/5
6. I have received the assistance that I needed through the program. 4.8/5
7. My impressions and interactions with staff has been positive. 5/5
8. My overall satisfaction with services was good. 4.8/5



100% of parents agreed that they received the assistance they needed.

100% of parents agreed that their impression and interaction with staff was positive.

100% of parents agreed that their overall satisfaction with services was good

95% of Lost Sierra Kids caretakers report positive results from attending groups.

Groups Support Considerations for upcoming year:

To strengthen community outreach, First 5 Plumas will actively seek a new family support partner in Chester, where playgroup attendance was low. Indian Valley Recreation & Parks Department opened “Tot Town” in April and First 5 Plumas offered playgroups in May and June and though attendance was low there were critical connections made with attending families.

First 5 Plumas successfully executed a soft launch of the Welcome Baby Program to gather crucial parent feedback on outreach materials, program design, and Welcome Baby kits. To expand long-term program capacity, the Commission is partnering with the Plumas Crisis Intervention & Resource Center and Plumas County Behavioral Health Wellness Centers, alongside making investments in local Baby Cafes for 2026–27.

Roundhouse Council Family Services

First 5 Plumas contracts with Roundhouse Council as a community grantee to offer services, regardless of income, to Native families in Indian Valley. Roundhouse Council program objectives include increasing access to health care, family strengthening principles, access to early childhood development, and parent involvement. Roundhouse Council staff offer playgroups, field trips, home visits, and staff a family resource center with scheduled social events including Family Nights and Early Learning Groups.

Roundhouse Council is in their new building, for their first full year. Since both their building and the town of Greenville burned in 2021 in the Dixie Fire, many families moved away and their numbers remain in decline each year.

Impact of Roundhouse Family Services

- Roundhouse Council served **4 families** with **7 children**, ages 0 to 5, in 2025-26 and offered
- **93 playgroups and Early Learning Groups** and there were **356 playgroup service contacts**.
- **56 office and home visits** included disseminating information on health/safety education, developmental education, literacy activities, kindergarten preparedness, and immunization education.
- **5 ASQ** developmental screenings were completed.
- Children attended **9 field trips**.

"I like how interactive the program is. The girls look forward to it every day."

Parent Comment

"Roundhouse Council takes a holistic approach to youth education. We begin at a young age to "plant the seed" by introducing students to their culture and traditions, then continue to foster those initial teachings through reinforcement and new lessons as they grow.

Specifically, two fathers teach the Maidu language and have been instrumental in our cultural programs. We deeply appreciate these two Native American role models, who have earned the respect of our youth and are now regarded as "Uncles" by the students.

During my 16 years at Roundhouse Council, every student who has come to our program has graduated from high school."

Mary Joseph

Roundhouse Council, Executive Director

Parents indicate on follow-up assessments that their children are up to date on well-child visits and that they have health and dental insurance. Their family habits include daily reading, numeracy, regular routines, and opportunities for outdoor and creative free play.

Mindful Nurturing Parent Training Video Series

First 5 Plumas contracted with Plumas Rural Services (PRS) to create Mindful Nurturing Parenting, a free, on-demand video parenting series available to any parent or caregiver at any time. The series was designed to offer training from a local, trusted source, tailored to families with children ages 0 to 5 and paired with text-message support from PRS staff. Families and caregivers who complete the series receive incentives. The series was produced in August 2025 and posted to the PRS training library in December 2025.

Impact of Mindful Nurturing Parent Training Video Series



The evaluation data was collected for 6 months (January 2026 to June 2026) after the video series was posted to the training library.

- **31 parents and caregivers registered** for the parenting video series
- **11 watched more than one video** but did not complete the full series, 15 registrants watched only one video
- **7 Plumas County parents and caregivers completed the video course** (over 6 registrations), and 5 of them completed final surveys and received a parenting incentive
- PRS shared **68 posts** on parenting in general and resources for parenting

Parents/caregivers who completed the series and completed an evaluation shows that all respondents either **Strongly Agreed** or **Somewhat Agreed** that the course helped them with:

- identifying things that strengthen or replenish you
- developing strategies to manage or decrease stress
- better functioning when facing challenges (parenting or otherwise)
- communication skills
- understanding child development
- engaging with my child(ren) in a positive way

- modeling things like love, affection, empathy, emotional responsiveness for my child(ren)
- appropriate discipline (setting clear expectations/limits, separating emotions from actions, teaching instead of punishing)

Survey Responses:

- The course helped them understand their child(ren)’s special needs.
Three respondents Strongly or Somewhat Agreed, while one was Neutral and one Somewhat Disagreed.
- The course helped them have comfort with or know how to ask for help/support.
Four respondents Strongly or Somewhat Agreed, while one Somewhat Disagreed.
- The course helped them with awareness of parenting resources and how to access them.
Four respondents Strongly or Somewhat Agreed that while one was Neutral.

Evaluation Data

Some registrations included couples, and some viewers appear to have shared their link with a partner, meaning we could not link a handful of viewers with the correct registrations. Collected demographics of those watching the videos are as follows:

	Completed Video Series	Watched Multiple Videos	Watched One Video
Total # caregivers	7	15	16
Females	4	5	11
Males	3	10	5
Under 18 years	0	0	2
# of children in family 0-2 years old	7	11	13
# of children in family 3-5 years old	4	14	9
# of children in family 6-18 years old	5	11	12

FIRST 5 PLUMAS STRATEGIC GOAL: INCREASE ACCESS TO SERVICES THROUGH STRENGTHENED COLLABORATION

First 5 Plumas has expanded its role as advocate, systems catalyst, broadcaster, and convener. Our collaboration with local partners includes participating in **21 collaborations** and partner engagements (meetings, collaborations, joint activities).

Partnerships include: Oral Health Coalition, Plumas STARS Consortium, Mountain Interagency Lactation Coalition, Plumas County Children’s Council, Local Child Care Planning Council, First 5 Plumas convened SNAP/Food Security group, and Volunteer Organization After Disaster.

We have held collaborative meetings with Plumas County Behavioral Health, Public Health, Roundhouse Council, PCOE SELPA, Plumas Charter School, WIC, Plumas Rural Services, Partnership Health Plan, Cal AIM, Far Northern Regional Center, State Council on Developmental Disabilities, Domestic Violence Services, and local hospital staff.

Improved Family Function: \$76,742		
<u>Objective:</u> Families have access to information, quality early education opportunities, social connections, and support to protect and promote their children's social and emotional development.		
Focus Areas	Programs	Activities
<u>Goal:</u> First 5 Plumas will expand opportunities for all families to access social connections, knowledge, and resources through direct services, partnerships, and/or collaborations.	Roundhouse Council \$30,000	Roundhouse Council offers home visiting services and playgroups to Native American families with children ages 0 – 5. Child Development Specialist is providing Child Development, Literacy, Kindergarten Readiness, and Health and Safety Education activities. <u>Roundhouse Council Services:</u> Playgroups: 93 Home Visits (Office): 67 Service Contacts: 220 Children served: 9 Families served: 6 ASQ -3: 5
	Parent Supports First 5 Plumas staff	<u>First 5 Plumas Playgroups:</u> Number of playgroups hosted: 114 Quincy- 45 Portola- 28 Chester-5 Pop up Preschool-30 Walking (Stride and Ride) Group-6 Number of families served (unduplicated): Number of Children: 73 Father Involvement: 14 Grandparent Care/FFN care: 5 Number of playgroup service contacts: 1,981 Satisfaction Surveys distributed to caretakers rated the playgroup value with 4 and 5 stars (100%).

		Home visits completed: 26 Developmental screenings: 33 Lost Sierra Kids Playgroup: Graeagle Number of playgroups: 35 Children (duplicated service contacts): 648 Adults (duplicated service contacts): 395 Satisfaction Surveys distributed to caretakers, mostly rated the playgroup value with 4 and 5 stars (95%). Strengthening Families questions indicate that families feel somewhat supported (92%) with score lowest on: • I have relationships with people who provide me with support when I need it. (86%) • I know who to contact in the community when I need help. (86%)
	Community Outreach Activities \$12,359	• Parent Trainings: 3, Winter Wonder Play and Literacy in Bloom Parent Night at FRC and Parent Night at PDH • Family Outreach Events: 8 Pumpkin Patch (Quincy) Trick or Treat (Quincy and Graeagle) Charter School Fall Performance Community Bingo Quincy Elementary School Back to School Pioneer Back to School Railroad Days (Portola) Plumas County Children's Fair • First 5 Plumas and the First 5 California 2026 Tour reported 175 interactions with families and 485 giveaways at the Children's Fair.
	Kick It California	Media campaign on First 5 Plumas homepage. Collaborated with Tobacco Use Reduction Program to develop and distribute 500 rack cards to families with young children.
	Mindful Nurturing Parenting Training Series \$28,198	Mindful Nurturing Parenting classes are geared toward parents and caretakers who want to interact with children more mindfully and with less stress. Plumas Rural Services, Mindful Nurturing Parenting Online classes were recorded in Fall 2025 and were launched in December 2025.

Improved Child Development

EXPAND ACCESS TO EARLY DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENINGS AND FOLLOW-UP

Ages and Stage Developmental Screenings

There were **327 ASQ developmental screenings conducted with 178 children**, across 9 agencies, county-wide. Increasing ASQ screenings was one of the goals of the Inclusive Early Education Workgroup and tracking rates across the county was a first step in understanding how to increase rates.

50% increase in ASQ development screenings over the last fiscal year in Plumas County

Families who completed screenings on ASQ Online were provided referrals and follow up with a First 5 Plumas Family Service Coordinator to link relevant services, when needed. First 5 Plumas offered 3 ASQ trainings and **9 professionals were trained**. Domestic Violence Services, Roundhouse Council, and new First 5 Plumas staff were trained during the reporting period to support screening and referrals. There are **7 sites offering developmental screenings in the county**.

Collateral materials were designed and distributed to ensure families understand the purpose and value of screenings and how to access support services. Materials were distributed to clinics, libraries, child care providers and preschools, and service providers.

First 5 Plumas has MOUs with Plumas Charter School and Plumas Unified School District to provide ASQ-3 to Transitional Kindergarten students during enrollment and one-on-one meetings with teachers and families. Schools are telling us that kindergarten readiness skills seem to be low.

IMPROVED EXPERIENCES FOR FAMILIES WHO HAVE CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

Inclusive Early Education Workgroup

First 5 Plumas convened the Inclusive Early Education Workgroup in July 2024, with monthly meetings, and published the [Action Plan](#) in July 2025. The Workgroup has advocated for improved intake and referral systems, provided trainings to child care providers, promoted inclusive messages in the community, has implemented the Action Plan activities and made significant progress toward its goals of making sure that children will have adequate supports for successful inclusion experiences.

Impact of Inclusive Early Education Workgroup

Inclusion efforts in Plumas County have led to several improvements:

- Child development screenings increased by 50%.
- PUSD expanded support for children in community-based State Preschool classrooms. Children can now receive speech services at their preschool sites, reducing transportation challenges for families. An Infant Specialist provides academic support to children with IEPs in CSPP classrooms.
- PUSD improved its website with community resources and preschool referral information.
- PUSD and Plumas Charter are coordinating with First 5 Plumas to offer Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ) screenings at enrollment.
- PUSD and FRC-CDC are developing joint staff trainings.
- PRS provided three inclusive-care trainings for child care providers.
- Referrals to PRS's Early Start Family Resource Center and Family Empowerment Center increased substantially in the first year.



Parent Experience

Parents have reported meaningful improvements despite the actual referral rates remaining flat. One parent who previously struggled to access Early Start services said the process was much more responsive and supportive for her younger child.

“Very helpful. I think trying to navigate the Internet and figure out what your rights are as a parent and what the legal requirements are for your student is overwhelming. The website and especially the PDF with the timeline is very helpful in breaking it all down. Really appreciative of First 5 and all the resources you all have compiled.”

Parent comment about online First 5 Plumas Inclusion Support resources

Inclusive Early Education Workgroup has **29 participating members from 14 organizations. 80% of participants** who responded to the Inclusive Early Education Workgroup survey indicate they believe that **the group’s work has improved services for children with disabilities and their families.**

“I have been attending the First 5 Plumas Workgroup meetings for the past year or so and have seen the differences being made in our rural communities. Other organizations that have been supportive are the SELPA team through PUSD and Far Northern. Partnering with these organizations allows families to access a broader range of services and resources.”

Early Intervention Workgroup participant comment

The Workgroup has developed advocacy documents and a [webpage](#) that assists families and service providers in navigating local and regional services and First 5 Plumas, along with partners, have **conducted Child Find assessments** with Far Northern Regional Center and Plumas Unified School District. First 5 Plumas was able to use the parent feedback to improve the website Search Engine Optimization and improve access to key local resources. See the [implementation planning](#) document for progress on the Action Plan.

LITERACY AND KINDERGARTEN READINESS

Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library

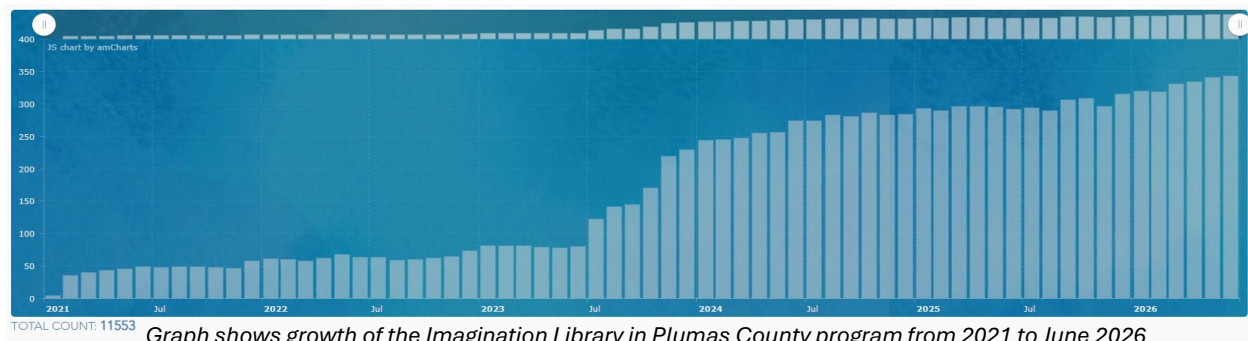
Dolly Parton's [Imagination Library](#) in Plumas County is funded locally by First 5 Plumas to mail free, age-appropriate books directly to children from birth to age five, offering bilingual English and Spanish book choices.

Impact of the Imagination Library

July 2025 – June 2026 – **3,798 books** were delivered to **410 children in Plumas County**.



A total of **11,553 books** have been delivered to **593 Plumas County children** through Imagination Library since 2021, with First 5 Plumas funding and donations from the Calpine Elks. There has been significant growth of the program since 2023, and Imagination Library is the most common service that families receive (51%) from First 5 Plumas according to the 2026 Parent Survey.



Imagination Library Research Findings:

- Enhanced home literacy environment
- Positive attitudes about reading and motivation to read among caregivers and children
- Increased interactions between caregivers and children during book reading



ACCESS TO QUALITY IMPROVEMENT CHILD CARE PROGRAMMING

Plumas STARS

First 5 Plumas is the lead agency for First 5 CA IMPACT and Quality Counts California funding for child care quality improvement. First 5 Plumas has a contract with Plumas STARS for child care quality improvement services. Plumas STARS assists participants with site improvement plans for child care quality improvement and offers trainings, in collaboration with Child Care Resource & Referral and Early Start, delivered to support child care and state preschool sites with inclusive education and other topics.

Plumas STARS offered **11 trainings** with **130 attendees** including:

- Social Emotion Development
- Inclusion Trainings
- Strengthening Families Provider Cafes

Plumas STARS has **29 participating sites** and **64 child care providers and staff**, which serve **246 children** ages 0 to 5, in child care and preschools. There are an additional **1787 children** (duplicated) who are served by alternative sites like libraries and playgroups.

Improved Child Development \$116,324Objectives:

- Children have access to quality early education opportunities.
- Children with disabilities are identified early and receive support.
- Schools are prepared for children, and the community is linked with the schools.

Focus Areas	Programs	Activities
Goal: First 5 Plumas will increase exposure to parent education and knowledge of child development and resources.	ASQ Developmental Screenings First 5 Plumas staff	ASQ Online is available with Family Access or organizations can have an independent account. First 5 Plumas works with families and organizations to increase screening rates and improve Child Find. Parent training at PDH Child Care Professional development trainings: 3 (DV, Roundhouse Council, PDH Child Care) # online screenings: 33
	Imagination Library \$8,783	25-26 Free books delivered monthly Total number of Children served FY 25-26: 410 children Total Book Count: 3,798 books distributed
	Plumas STARS \$107,541	Plumas STARS is the local Quality Rating and Improvement System for early education and care settings. Serving 23 child care provider sites 5 CSPP sites Infants: 22 T/PreK children: 157
	Kindergarten Round Up First 5 Plumas staff	Supports Kindergarten readiness activities First 5 Plumas has MOUs with PUSD and Plumas Charter School to provide ASQ developmental screenings at transitional kindergarten events in Chester, Quincy, and Portola.

Improved Child Health

PROMOTE CHILD HEALTH

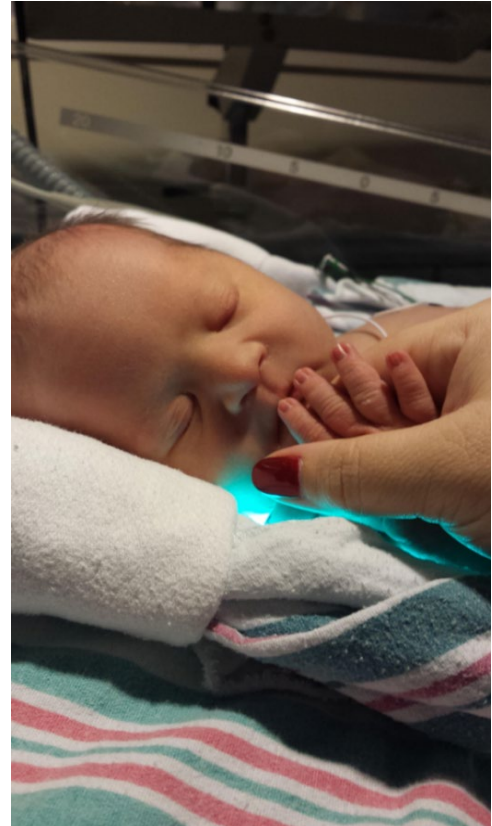
Early Intervention Services

First 5 Plumas contracts with Plumas County Office of Education, Early Intervention, as a community grantee to offer home visiting early intervention services provided by the infant specialist. PUSD has a contract with Far Northern Regional Center, but it does not cover all expenses incurred to deliver services.

Early Intervention served **30 families** with **30 children**, ages 0 to 5, in 2025-26 and provided **220 home visits**.

Impact of Early Education Services

- **Parent Comments:**
“Teri is the best, lots of great information.”
- *“Supportive and kind staff. They truly care about the families and children they work with and they are gifted at their work. Home visits are so convenient.”*
- *“I love the at home visits, the way my son connects with his teacher, and especially the kindness and support from Ms. Teri.”*
- *“They worked around our crazy schedule and even saw (our child) at the childcare center.”*



4 families completed protective factors and satisfaction surveys and **95% selected Strongly Agree** on Parent Satisfaction questions. The satisfaction surveys are based on a 5-point scale, from strongly disagree (1) to Strongly Agree (5).

Parent Satisfaction

1. This program has helped me improve my parenting skills. **4.75/5**
2. This program has helped me reduce stress in my life. **4.75/5**
3. My ideas and opinions are welcomed and included in the program. **4.75/5**
4. I feel that the program staff respect me. **4.75/5**
5. This program is helping me reach my goals for my family and for me. **4.75/5**
6. I have received the assistance that I needed through the program. **4.75/5**
7. My impressions and interactions with staff has been positive. **4.75/5**
8. My overall satisfaction with services was good. **4.75/5**

Protective Factors Survey

The protective factor survey asks families to determine their agreement, before receiving services and after receiving services on a 7 point scale from Strongly Disagree to Strongly Agree. There were increases in agreement on each question except for question 6.

1. I have relationships with people who provide me with support when I need it.

32% increase in rating

2. I know who to contact in the community when I need help.

32% increase in rating

3. I have confidence in my ability to parent and take care of my children.

18% increase in rating

4. When I am worried about my child, I have someone to talk to.

29% increase in rating

5. I know how to meet my family's needs with the money and resources I have.

29% increase in rating

6. I can stand up for what my family and children need.

No increase in rating

7. I can make choices about family schedules and activities that reduce family stress.

32% increase in rating

Welcome Baby:

Welcome Baby is a proactive prevention strategy designed to be a connection point and be broadly available to all Plumas County families, helping to reduce stigma for accessing services. [The First 5 Plumas Commission Welcome Baby Briefing Paper](#) outlines the program and there has been significant work in fiscal year 2025-26 to increase the capacity of our Community Health Workforce, improve our data system, and secure funding for HIPAA, privacy, and security compliance. We anticipate that there will not be significant data collected until fiscal year 2026-27.

Help Me Grow:

Welcome Baby is also linked to Help Me Grow Plumas which provides a central access point for information, support and resources on early child development to Plumas County families. When families reach out to Help Me Grow, they are connected to a child development specialist who can respond to developmental or behavioral concerns or questions, provide information regarding typical developmental milestones, make referrals to community-based support, assist and empower families to overcome barriers to

services, and follow up to ensure that linkages are successful. Help Me Grow Plumas networks with community organizations in building an organized system of resources to help families and children thrive.

First 5 Plumas Family Service Coordinators distribute collateral materials and local and regional resources at playgroups and parent trainings: **45 families have been provided with 346 resources.**

First 5 Plumas **Help Me Grow** has served **51 children** and **provided 15 referrals.**

Brush, Book, Bed Oral Health Initiative:

First 5 Plumas developed local [Brush, Book, Bed](#) materials including a [Toothbrushing and Sensory Needs](#) resource for families. First 5 Plumas collaborated with Public Health, Plumas STARS, and the Local Planning Council to purchase and distribute oral health kits and books with a total of **1000 kits distributed across Plumas County in 2025-26** including distributing kits to all children attending the Plumas County Children's Fair.



REDUCE SERVICE GAPS ACROSS THE COUNTY

Diaper Bank:

The First 5 Plumas Diaper Bank was started in April 2026 and there were **16 referrals** in the last quarter.

The First 5 Plumas Welcome Baby Program will address outreach efforts where services were not previously offered or regularly accessed, and which will include utilizing CalAIM/Medi-Cal/CHW benefit and cross-sector services.

The Plumas Model (AB661) was approved November 2025, because of successfully advocating for alternative delivery models to expand access to birth services. The program will help leverage existing embedded services (e.g., clinics, EI, FRCs, schools) to expand access to early childhood screenings, referrals, and parent support.

Improved Child Health - \$24,740Objective:

Families with children prenatal through 5 have access to oral health, social and emotional health, and health education opportunities.

<u>Goal:</u> First 5 Plumas will provide support and advocacy to increase access to whole child health care.	Early Intervention Home Visiting Programs \$5,000	The Early Intervention Teacher at Plumas Unified School District provides home visiting services to children age 0 to 3 who have been identified with a developmental delay. Early Intervention Home Visits: 220 Children Served: 30 Families served: 30 Fathers/Male Caretakers: 30 Assessments: 6
	Collaboration with the Oral Health coalition	Dental care is a critical unmet need of families and First 5 Plumas participates in a multi-county effort to support preventive dental care treatment for young children. First 5 Plumas and the Plumas County Public Health Agency, Oral Health collaborated to provide 1000 oral health kits for Children's Oral Health Month from February to June 2026. The Tooth Book was distributed to 400 families with funding from First 5 Plumas, Plumas County Oral Health, and the Local Child Care Planning Council.
	Breastfeeding Groups	Baby Bounce groups are offered before playgroups to give families with very young children a chance to connect. Families with babies currently attend the playgroups.
	Welcome Baby \$16,740	First 5 Plumas Welcome Baby program will be launching in 2026 to engage families and welcome their newest family members. This program will be aligned with the CalAIM Community Health Worker benefit.
	Diaper Bank \$3,000	The Plumas Crisis Intervention & Resource Center and First 5 Plumas have partnered to provide diapers to families exhibiting an emergent need. There were 16 referrals with 3 additional service contacts through the Diaper Bank Program. Additionally, 130 cases of diapers (and wipes), provided by Supply Bank, were delivered to families through the Crisis Center, First 5 Plumas playgroups, Behavioral Health Wellness Centers, and Nourishing Newborns.

Improved Systems of Care

ADVOCATE FOR SERVICES FOR CHILDREN 0-5 AND THEIR FAMILIES

First 5 Plumas conducts parent surveys, bi-annually, to identify general preferences and needs of families. The Community Needs and Parent Survey Report identifies and analyzes trends and general preferences of Plumas County families. There were 3 focused listening sessions to gain deeper insights into preferences and needs and will summarize key themes and nuanced feedback from listening sessions. The draft Community Needs and Parent Survey Report is available

FILL HIGH-IMPACT GAPS

The [First 5 Plumas Strategic Plan 2025-2030](#) identified critical gaps in local services. First 5 Plumas respond to these needs, but we also remain nimble when we need to respond to emergent situations (e.g. SNAP/Food Security Meetings convening in response to the Federal closures).

Identified gaps and activities in each:

1. Improved Family Functioning: Parent Groups, Parent Education, and Home Visits
2. Improved Child Development: Developmental Screenings, Literacy Programs, and Plumas Stars Improved
3. Child Health: Birth Services, Dental Care, Early Intervention, Mental Health and destigmatizing asking for help
4. Improved Systems of Care: Improvements to Outreach, Family Activities, Resource and Referrals, and Collaboration

INCREASE AWARENESS OF FIRST 5 PLUMAS SERVICES

Community Outreach events and Media Outreach (see table below) planning has increased the number of families that are connected to First 5 Plumas:

- **3,194 newsletters** distributed monthly to **463 subscribers**
- Imagination Library served **410 children**
- Help Me Grow Plumas **provided 2,037 service contacts**
- First 5 Plumas website had **4,547 page views**
- First 5 Plumas Facebook page had **5,364 views**



Improved Systems of Care - \$16,583 <u>Objectives:</u> - Services are responsive to the needs of children and their families. - Identify unserved families with children in all areas of the county.		
Goal: First 5 Plumas will facilitate a coordinated effort to connect children and families to resources.	Strengthening Families Home Visiting Coalition	Reconvene the home visitor's coalition to coordinate services and foster cooperative strategies. First 5 Plumas and Mountain Interagency Lactation Coalition members meet quarterly and are developing local Infant Feeding and Lactation Support resources. The coalition is comprised of the same service providers who would also attend a HV coalition or a Maternal Health Coalition.
	Inclusive Early Education Coordination \$11,200	Focused on addressing barriers, leveraging resources, and fostering collaboration to support the inclusion of children with disabilities in early childhood education in Plumas County. Inclusive Early Education Workgroup survey ; 80% of respondents said that work had improved services for children with disabilities and their families. In July 2025, the Inclusive Early Education Workgroup published an Action Plan and built an Inclusive Early Education webpage with comprehensive local advocacy documents in English and Spanish. Resources were developed collaboratively with Far Northern Regional Center, the PRS Early Start and Family Empowerment Center, and PCOE, along with workgroup members. Action Plan Accomplishments (completed by workgroup members): Goal 1 Improved how we locate children needing support - Completed Child Find Needs Assessment Parts C & B (FNRC & PUSD) - Creation of document with Well Child visit schedule - Distributed 500 rack cards with ASQ info - Partnered with PRS R&R, APP & DV and Crisis Center to share Child Find materials with parents and providers - PUSD preschool intake form created and posted on website - PUSD now has a database tracking students (TK and above) who were evaluated and didn't qualify for Special Education.

		Goal 2 Increased access, participation & support in ECE settings ● PUSD added more resources to their website to improve knowledge of SPED processes ● Marketed Beginning Together workshops ● Plumas STARS and Early Start Family Resource Center and Family Empowerment hosted provider event on inclusion ● Continued Plumas Inclusion in Early Childhood Education meetings through Spring of 2026 ● 13 child care providers and ECE professionals participated in “Watch Me!” training and received stipends. Goal 3 Parents and advocates understand and exercise children’s educational rights ● Partnered with FNRC, PUSD & PRS to create new advocacy materials now available on First 5 Plumas website ● Communication document created and shared to improve messaging to families of children with disabilities ● Early Start Family Resource Center and Family Empowerment shared referral data with IEEW Goal 4 A community culture embracing inclusion takes root ● Included inclusion messages in First 5 Plumas newsletter ● Distributed 27 Inclusion Libraries to Plumas STARS participating child care providers, alternate sites, and centers with funding from the LPC.
	Media Outreach \$5,383	Improving communication with families and service providers county wide. <u>First 5 Plumas monthly newsletter (Started in November 2025):</u> <i>The newsletter is distributed through subscriptions on the First 5 Plumas website but automatically is sent to Imagination Library enrollees through an API.</i> November distribution: 370, Opens: subscribers 45.2%, API 12.3% December distribution: 375, Opens: subscribers 43.8%, API 10.2% January distribution: 382, Opens: subscribers 24.3%, 8.5 API % February distribution: 398, Opens: subscribers 33.1%, API 14.9%

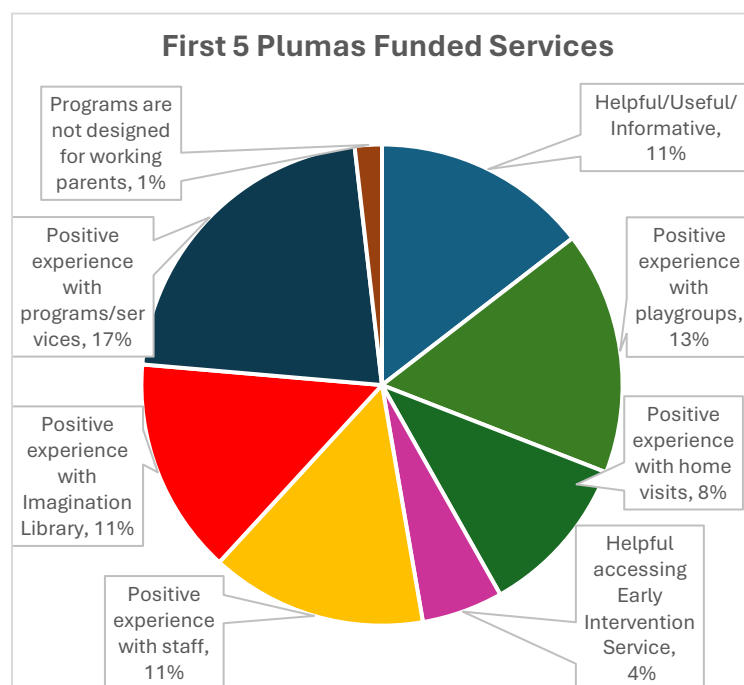
		March distribution: 390, Resent to unopened 50. Opens: subscribers 45.8%, API 26.8% April distribution: 405, Resent to unopened 76. Opens: subscribers 34.9%, API 32.1% May distribution: 412, Resent to unopened 87. Opens: subscribers 41.5%, API 23.6% June distribution: 462, Resent to unopened 236. Opens: subscribers 41.4%, API 22% Newsletter Distribution TOTAL: 3,194 <u>Printed materials:</u> 500 bookmarks added to free library books 500 ASQ rack cards distributed to WIC, libraries, and clinic offices 500 First 5 Plumas stickers 161 resources distributed monthly by APP. Inclusion packets provided to partners. Flyer Distribution: 27 locations have flyers posted on a regular basis. Weekly materials distributed to 67 families at playgroups, pop-up pre-school, and walking group. <u>Website Analytics Data:</u> Page Views: 4,547 Unique Visitors: 1,354 Home Page: 1,425 Plumas Families webpage: 485 Help Me Grow webpage: 372 Inclusive Early Education webpage: 275 First 5 Plumas Commission webpage: 135
	Help Me Grow Plumas First 5 Staff	The First 5 Plumas Family Services Coordinator provides individualized service navigation to families by developing trusting relationships and works to encourage healthy parenting practices and self-care habits. <u>Help Me Grow Services Contacts</u> Texts: 1,600 Calls: 17 Resources distributed at group supports: 346 Personal check-ins: 420 Referrals: 35

First 5 Plumas Services – Parent Survey Results

First 5 Plumas adjusts or modifies its investments based on evaluation results and input from the community. First 5 Plumas conducted county-wide needs assessments in 2026 which has helped to identify service gaps. The community needs assessment included a parent survey and focus groups.

The objectives of the Parent Survey and Focus Groups are to:

- Assess priority needs of families with 0-5 year olds; understand barriers to accessing services
- Gather recommendations from community members to share with service providers, community leaders, and policy makers.
- Inform First 5 Plumas’s future strategic planning efforts, funding allocations, program development, partnerships and collaborations, communication, initiatives and advocacy.



Of all Parent Survey participants who received First 5 Plumas services and gave a star rating, 95% gave 4 or 5 stars.

Respondents described their experience receiving First 5 Plumas funded services as in open-ended question responses:

1. **Helpful, useful, and informative.** Respondents described their experiences receiving information, the staff being helpful, and receiving help accessing services and programs.
2. **Positive experience with programs and services.** Respondents described positive experiences with the organization or programs in general.
3. **Positive experience with playgroups.** Respondents highlighted how playgroups have benefited them as parents and/or their child(ren).
4. **Positive experience with Imagination Library.** Respondents reported the free book program as being beneficial and positive for their family.
5. **Positive experience with staff.** Respondents described helpful and positive experiences they have had with playgroup staff and staff helping with navigating programs and services.

6. **Positive experience with home visiting.** Respondents highlighted how impactful home visits have been for their family and the positive experiences they have had with the home visitors from practical assistance to emotional support.
7. **Helpful accessing early intervention services.** Respondents described positive experiences with First 5 Plumas helping the family navigate the process of accessing early intervention services.

Most appreciated services by geographical area:

Among Parent Survey respondents from Indian Valley who shared their experiences receiving First 5 Plumas funded services (33%), all reported positive experiences with home visiting programs. We did not differentiate between the home visiting programs and these comments were likely in reference to Family First and Nourishing Newborns Home Visiting Programs (neither of which were funded by First 5 Plumas in 25-26).

- Quincy respondents most frequently highlighted positive experiences with staff (25%) and playgroups (21%).
- Portola respondents most reported positive experiences with programs and services in general (20%), the Imagination Library (17%), and the helpfulness, usefulness, or informativeness of the services (13%).
- In Chester, playgroups were most frequently identified as a positive experience (29%), while the remaining responses were evenly distributed across positive experiences with home visiting, early intervention services, the Imagination Library, and programs or services more generally, as well as finding the services helpful, useful, or informative.

[To read the Community Needs and Parent Survey Report 2026](#)

Commission Considerations:

In Plumas County 50% of children 0 to 5 never attend childcare or preschool and we believe this is the population that we are missing – the population that is hard to reach and the families that may never benefit from services. **Our goal is to reach 100% of families** so that families are knowledgeable about what is available and can choose to participate. The First 5 California’s [North Star Statement and Audacious Goal](#) is to eliminate inequities and First 5 Plumas’s vision is for all Plumas County children and families to thrive. We will continue to cultivate safe, nurturing, healthy environments for children, prenatal to age 5, and their families through inclusive and accessible services and support.

Data Improvements:

- This fiscal year marks changes with a new strategic plan, changes in grantee investments, and new initiatives and programs.
- We selected a new HIPAA compliant data system that will allow us to evaluate First 5 Plumas investments, bill Medi-Cal for the CHW benefit, and to track Help Me Grow data.
- First 5 Plumas will be switching to an online satisfaction survey for playgroups and pop-up preschool to increase confidentiality when distributing the surveys (paper surveys will still be available).
- We are working with our grantees to improve data collection and reporting.