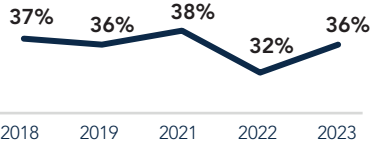




What are the needs in our community?

Insufficient Income



Over one-third of families with a child under age 6 have insufficient income to meet their basic needs (i.e., fall below the Real Cost Measure).¹

11% of families receiving services at our FRCs have a gap in their household's insurance coverage.²

22% of children under 6 are enrolled in Medi-Cal (California's Medicaid program).³

Safety and Resiliency

12% of adults report exposure to four or more Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs); 59.3% report any ACEs.⁴

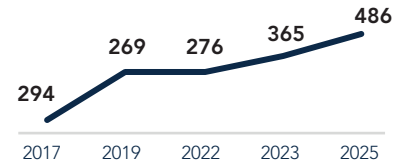
Across Santa Clara County, approximately:

23% of babies have eight or fewer California Strong Start Index assets at birth and could be considered vulnerable.

In some census tracts, this is true for as many as two-thirds of babies.⁵

44% of families report child safety in the community as the most important concern in raising young children.⁶

Homelessness



Since 2023, the number of homeless families has increased⁷ by: **33%**

20% of those entering homelessness in 2025 were families with children.⁸

93% of renters who earn less than \$75,000 a year are housing cost-burdened (spend 30% or more of their income on housing).⁹

How is FIRST 5 Santa Clara County responding?

Stronger Systems, Stronger Families Initiative

The Stronger Systems, Stronger Families (SSSF) initiative is the cornerstone of FIRST 5's investment strategy, aimed at addressing families' most important concerns about raising children and barriers to accessing adequate services and support. Designed with input from families and community partners, this three-year initiative provides \$31 million in flexible funding to 22 organizations across three strategies:

Strategy 1: Place-Based Resource Centers

10 Ten grantees provide culturally responsive, trauma-informed, and healing-centered spaces that connect families to basic resources, services, and supports in ways that improve families' sense of safety and belonging.

Strategy 2: Critical Gaps

12 Twelve grantees address critical gaps preventing families from connecting to the resources, services, and supports they need in order to meet their children's basic needs, safety, and healthy development. Projects funded under this strategy include basic needs assistance, housing-related services, health and developmental screening, services for court-impacted families, mental health services, and parent engagement and education.

Strategy 3: Bold and Innovative Efforts

4 Four grantees are supporting families' health and social needs through efforts that address upstream and social determinants of health. Projects funded under this strategy aim to build leadership, strengthen resilience, and expand equitable access to opportunities for marginalized families.

In the first year of the initiative, grantees have served:

28,471 children 16,203 caregivers 8,242 providers

Guaranteed Basic Income Pilot

FIRST 5 supports Destination: Home's Silicon Valley Guaranteed Income Project. Grantees provide monthly cash assistance designed to increase housing stability for families with children 0-5 who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness. The project also includes Sacred Heart Community Services, Sí Se Puede Collective, UCSF Benioff Center, and others. Participants receive assistance establishing bank accounts, increasing financial literacy, and accessing public benefits. This pilot project will add to local and national learning on guaranteed income approaches for households experiencing housing instability or homelessness.

\$400,000 awarded to **165** parents and **225** children ages 0-5

"It makes such a difference to be able to send the kids to camp... I just see such a difference in their emotional well-being and the way they interact with their peers or other people... when they feel they have somewhere that they belong."

– Participant

1. The Real Cost Measure in California 2025. United Ways of California. March 2025

2. SSSF Year One Family Resource Centers Family Survey Results

3. U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2024 One-Year Estimates; Table S2704

4. UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, 2024 California Health Interview Survey

5. 2025 California Strong Start Index

6. FIRST 5 Santa Clara County 2023 F5 Parent and Caregiver Survey

7. Santa Clara County Point-In-Time Count Community Report 2025

8. Santa Clara County Point-In-Time Count Community Report 2025

9. U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2024 One-Year Estimates; Table S2503