

School Readiness Programs Phase 1 Request for Funding (RFF)

Building Blocks for School Readiness

Adapted from the National Education Goals Panel



Napa County Early Learning Initiative

California Children and Families Commission
501 J Street, Ste 530, Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 657-3558
www.cafc.ca.gov

**California Children and Families Commission (CCFC)
School Readiness Programs
Phase 1 Request for Funding (RFF)**

Napa County Early Learning Initiative

TABLE OF CONTENTS

**PHASE 1 SCHOOL READINESS PROGRAMS MATCHING FUNDS INFORMATION
(SCHOOL READINESS PROGRAM REQUEST FOR FUNDING)**

<u>School Readiness Application Package</u>	<u>Page</u>
Phase 1 School Readiness Programs Application with Additional Agreements and Certifications	1
Collaborative Partners	3
Narrative Description of School Readiness	4
1. Program Description	
a. Provide an overview of the School Readiness Program/System, including communities to be served.	4
b. What are the strengths and needs of the families and communities served by the targeted schools?	9
c. What results are expected for children and families?	18
2. Services and Partners	22
a. What strategies and partners are currently in place that address the 5 “Essential Elements”?	22
b. What new strategies and partners will be implemented to further address or expand/enhance the 5 “Essential Elements”?	26
c. What are the specific roles and commitments provided by the participating schools?	31
d. How will coordination/integration of current and new services and resources for this School Readiness Program be addressed and supported?	33
3. Operations	37
a. How has/will collaborative planning and decision making be accomplished?	37
b. How does your staffing and professional development support the results and strategies for the 5 “Essential and Coordinated Elements” for the children and families to be served?	39
County Commission Budget Summary (4a); and School Readiness Program Budget—State CCFC funds (4b)	43
School Readiness Program Profile	45
School Readiness Programs Technical Assistance Survey	46
Appendix: Letters of Support	47

**Phase 1
School Readiness Program Application for Funding**

Return to:
CA Children and Families Commission
501 J St., Ste. 530
Sacramento, CA 95814
ATTN: Gwen Atkins

**Due :
October 15, 2001
and/or
January 15, 2002**

Part I: Application Information

						Total Amount of State CCFC Matching Funds Requested: \$ 500,000*
For State CCFC Use						

***This amount includes \$50,000 of total allowable implementation funding already received by the Commission.**

Name of County Commission: Napa Children and Families Commission			
Executive Director: Sally Sheehan-Brown		Contact Person: Same	
Address: #5 Financial Plaza		Address:	
City: Napa	Zip Code: 94558	City:	Zip Code:
Phone: (707) 257-1410	FAX: (707) 257-1417	Phone:	FAX:

Part II: County Commission Signature (Signature needs to be original.)

Agreements and Certifications:
The County Commission agrees to collect and report additional information and data that will be necessary for the evaluation of, and ongoing reporting on, the School Readiness Programs.

The County Commission agrees to provide resources to support the mentoring/teaching responsibilities of each School Readiness Program as described in the Guidelines for Completing a School Readiness Program Application.

I certify that all CCFC and County Commission Prop. 10 funds will be used only to supplement existing levels of service and not to fund existing levels of service. No moneys shall be used to supplant state or local General Fund money for any purpose, pursuant to Revenue and Taxation Code section 30131.4.

I certify that the local, required cash match will be provided as described in this Application.

Jackie Dollar- Harrison

County Commission Chair's Name

County Commission Chair's Signature

Part III: Participating School(s) (Attach extra sheets if necessary.)

Schools: Please list the names and CDS codes of all the schools included in the School Readiness Program/System. Each school should be a qualifying (i.e., high priority) school per the Guidelines for the RFF. (Note: The first school listed on this form may be used by CCFC for the purpose of Application identification.)

CDS Code*	District and School	Enrollment	Grade Span	% students eligible to receive free or reduced-price meals	% enrolled students that are English Language Learners	** Current II/USP or CSRD school or IASA Schoolwide	Current API (Academic Performance Index)
28-66266-6026934	Napa Valley Unified School District - Shearer Charter Elementary School	756	K-6	84%	70%	Title I School wide	2
28-66266-6026850	Napa Valley Unified School District - McPherson Elementary School	706	K-6	75%	72%	Title I School wide	3

* CDE County (2 digits) - District (5 digits) - School (7 digits) coding system as published in the California Public School Directory. (Example: 01 61119 Alameda Unified 6110779 Bay Farm Elementary). Other terms are defined in the Guidelines to the RFF.

** II/USP (Immediate Intervention/Underperforming Schools Program) designates involvement in California's education improvement program; CSRD (Comprehensive School Reform Demonstration) designates involvement in the federal education improvement program; IASA (Improving America's Schools Act) schoolwide projects refers to Title I schools that develop a schoolwide plan for education improvement rather than focusing services on individually identified students.

COLLABORATIVE PARTNERS*

Name/Title	Signature (Optional)	Agency and Address	Phone/Email
Lisa Miri, Principal		Shearer Charter Elementary School; 1590 Elm Street, Napa 94559	707-253-3508; lmiri@nvusd.k12.ca.us
Steven Henson, Principal		McPherson Elementary School, 2670 Yajome Street, Napa 94558	707.253-3488; shenson@nvusd.k12.ca.us
Courtney Henderson, Director k-6 Education		Napa Valley Unified School District; 2425 Jefferson St., Napa 94558	707.253-3591; Chenderson@nvusd.k12.ca.us
Kristie Brandt, Program Director		Napa County Health and Human Services - Maternal and Child Health; 2261 Elm Street, Napa 94559	707.253-4310; kbrandt@co.napa.ca.us
Joelle Gallagher, Executive Director		COPE Family Resource Center; 1340 Fourth St., Napa 94559	707.252-1116; Jgallagher@copefamilycenter.org
Joan Lockhart, Program Director		MATRIX Family Resource Center, 1780 Third Street, Napa 94558	707. 253-8729; JKLMatrix@aol.com
Guillermo Brito, Executive Director		Nuestra Esperanza, 1001 Franklin, Napa 94558	707.253-4979;
Andrea Knowlton, Director of Early Education Services		Napa County Office of Education; 1015 Kaiser Road, Napa 94559	707.253-6800; Mcoeandik@prodigy.net
Lisa Meyer, Project Director		Napa CARES Initiative; 1015 Kaiser Road, Napa 94559	707.253-6800; lmeyer@ncoe.k12.ca.us
Darlene Howell, Coordinator		Napa County Child Care Planning Council; 1015 Kaiser Road, Napa 94559	707.253-6800; Hdarlene@ncoe.k12.ca.us
Suzanne Deiss		Calistoga Family Resource Center, 1327 Berry Street, Calistoga 94515	(707) 942-6206
Barbara Striek, Deputy Director		Child Start; 439 Devlin Road, Napa 94558	707. 252-8931; jdharrison@childstartinc.org
Barbara Magee, Director of Philanthropy		Community Foundation of the Napa Valley, 433 Soscol Avenue, S. B-161, Napa 94559	707.254-9565; Barbara.magee@cfnv.org
Dennis Ruggiero, County Director		Migrant Education Early Start; 2425 Jefferson St., Napa 94558	707.253-3537; Druggiero@co.napa.ca.us
Kevin Eisenberg, Principal		Calistoga Unified School District, 1327 Berry Street, Calistoga 94515	(707) 942-4398

*Letters of support can be found in Appendix.

Narrative Description of Phase 1 School Readiness Program (or System)
The Napa County Early Learning Initiative

1. PROGRAM/SYSTEM DESCRIPTION

a. Provide an overview of the School Readiness Program/System, including communities to be served.

Brief Description of Napa County.

Napa County is about a one-hour drive from the major Northern California cities of San Francisco, Oakland and Sacramento. It is considered a rural county and a part of the Greater Bay and North Bay areas. About 60% of all county residents live in the city of Napa. The remaining 40% live in smaller cities in rural surroundings. Highway 29 is the main thoroughfare for the county. The major population centers in the County are:

Geographic Area	Cities and Towns
North County	Calistoga, St. Helena, Deer Park, Rutherford, Oakville
East County	Angwin, Pope Valley, Lake Berryessa
Central County	Napa, Yountville
South County	American Canyon

Population. An estimated 124,279 residents live in Napa County (Census 2000), including about 7,563 children under the age of 5 (or about 6% of all county residents). There were 1,496 births to Napa County residents in 2000. About thirty percent of those births were out of county (e.g., Kaiser Permanente - Vallejo).

Napa County is growing at a rate of about 6.7% per year as compared with the statewide average of 9.3% per year. American Canyon and St. Helena are the fastest growing areas of the county while the population of Yountville has actually decreased.

Diversity in race and ethnicity. It is estimated that Latinos now comprise 19% of the population of the county (up from 14.4% in 1990). Asian/Pacific Islanders, African Americans, American Indians and Latinos make up 24.5% of the county's population (up from 19.2% in 1990).

Relevant Demographics. Some demographic elements relevant to children and families in Napa County (Source: 1999 Child Care Portfolio for Napa County; Self-Sufficiency Worksheet for Napa County):

- About 11% of all children ages 0-5 are living in families considered to be below the poverty income level (using the Federal definition for a family of four at \$12,674 per year);

Napa Children and Families Commission
The Napa County Early Learning Initiative

- Using California state income guidelines (based on family size and income), 30% of children ages 0-5 are eligible for child care subsidies;
- 54% of children ages 0-5 live with working parents (either both parents or single head of household working);
- A single parent with two children (one infant; one preschooler) earning a self-sufficiency wage (not eligible for needs based assistance) in Napa County will spend 30% of his or her monthly income on child care (as compared to 26% for housing and 11% for food);
- Care for an infant as a percentage of median annual income is 17% and care for two children (one infant 0-2 years and one child age 2-5) as a percentage of median annual income is 29%.

Census 2000 data indicates the following race/ethnicity of children 0-5 in Napa County as:

Race/Ethnicity	Number	% of Total
Hispanic	3,719	49.2%
White	3,268	43.2%
Multiple Races	241	3.2%
Asian	181	2.3%
African American	96	1.5%
Native American and Alaska Native	29	.3%
Other	20	.2%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	9	.1%
Total	7,563	100%

Napa County School Districts.

There are six school districts in Napa County serving students in kindergarten through high school. Seventy-six percent of the elementary schools (19 of 25) are located within the City of Napa and the Napa Valley Unified School District (NVUSD). The two

Napa Children and Families Commission
The Napa County Early Learning Initiative

Napa County elementary schools identified by the Academic Performance Index (API) as high priority are Shearer Charter and McPherson. Both schools are within the NVUSD district. The application data for those schools is as follows:

School	Enrollment	Grade Span	% students eligible to receive free or reduced-price meals	% enrolled students that are English Language Learners	Current II/USP or CSRD school or IASA Schoolwide	Current API (Academic Performance Index)
Shearer Charter Elementary School	756	K-6	84%	70%	Title I School wide	2
McPherson Elementary School	706	K-6	75%	72%	Title I School wide	3

What is the Approach to Proposed Program/System? In Napa County, there are several district and countywide efforts to promote early success in school, school readiness and the value of early learning. These efforts will provide over \$400,000 in funding over the next 18 months. However, since these efforts are in the very early stages of development, collaboration and coordination activities have not yet occurred.

For that reason and given the ‘basic’ allocation from the State Commission, our local readiness initiative will focus on *adding value* to current or planned services and activities. This added value will supplement, but will not supplant funding already provided. The desired goals of these activities are to:

1. Expand the current activities at both high priority schools for increasing the early learning success of school-aged children to children 0-5 and their families within their respective community areas; and
2. Initiate a countywide collaborative to coordinate and support activities that promote early learning success at all 25 elementary schools in the six districts of Napa County.

Below is an outline of the major activities we intend to fund within the community areas of our two high priority schools:

expand an early learning success program to include children not currently attending preschool and their parents;

- expand the hours of Bilingual Community Liaisons for outreach activities focused on identifying families in the area with 0-5 year olds not currently connected with a preschool (with added supervision by Health Start Coordinator and school nurses);
- support efforts to develop an articulated preschool curriculum;

Napa Children and Families Commission
The Napa County Early Learning Initiative

- provide six evening workshops for parents of preschoolers at both school site preschools that are available to all neighborhood families;
- pilot an early Kindergarten registration campaign (in order to provide school readiness information and referral to family support services as needed); and
- coordinate with four existing community events (e.g., information fairs, fiestas, fundraisers) to provide needed support for early Kindergarten registration and take-home information on early learning activities.

Below is an outline of the major countywide activities we intend to fund:

- administrative support for the development of a countywide Early Learning Task Force;
- development and maintenance of a management information system regarding all countywide readiness efforts;
- a reprint of *Helping Your Child Get Ready for School*, an activity-based child development guide for parents of children 0-5;
- development of a web-based *Guide to Napa County Family Support Services and Training*;
- establishment of a free consultation service for families of children 0-5 on developmental and early learning;
- collaborative activities needed to *grow* the initiative into a countywide network of school readiness activities within four years (e.g., pursuing additional funds for countywide projects, approaching the business community to promote formal and informal methods of supporting early learning);
- Spanish language translators for selected parent trainings throughout the county that focus on successful early learning activities; and
- mini-grants for family resource centers to facilitate the development and support of parent leaders serving on the countywide Task Force (e.g., transportation, child care and other support needed to encourage participation as equal members).

It is anticipated that this Year 1 approach of *adding value* to new and existing efforts (see Table 1 on the following page) will facilitate additional early learning activities on a countywide level in subsequent years. For example, it is hoped that the Napa County Commission will receive a number of collaborative of grant applications during its next funding cycle or that they will establish school readiness as a prioritized funding area. This will allow us to modify our Year 2 approach to assessing all elementary schools and developing a comprehensive approach in all six school districts.

Napa Children and Families Commission
The Napa County Early Learning Initiative

Table 1. Summary of Proposed Activities by Element and Age*

Elements by Age	Shearer and McPherson Communities	Napa County
Early Care and Education		
2-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand Kindergarten transition program to include up to 100 children (3-5) not currently attending preschool 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Reformat, translate and print 2,000 copies of Helping Your Child Get Ready for School in English and Spanish</i>
3-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support efforts to develop a district wide articulated preschool curriculum 	
Parenting/Family Support Services		
0-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand the Kindergarten transition program to include a parent component for up to 100 families Provide six evening workshops for 60 families of preschoolers at both school sites Coordinate with four local events to distribute information and support early registration for Kindergarten and school readiness activities for 100 or more families 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Develop a web-based Guide to Napa County Family Support Services and Training</i> Provide Spanish language translators for selected parent trainings on early learning activities for at least 80 families
Health and Social Services		
0-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand hours of school-based community liaisons for outreach activities focused on identifying 100+ families with 0-5 year olds not associated with early learning and education providers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide a free, one-hour consultations on child development and basic health screening for 192 children 0-5 and their families
Schools' Readiness for Children		
3-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pilot a campaign to increase early enrollment by an additional 150 children in the NVUSD district Develop a Spring evening activities program for 40 or more families 	
Infrastructure and Administration		
0-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supervision of Bilingual Community Liaisons in outreach activities Review of health care services screening (completed by community liaisons) by Shearer and McPherson school nurses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Develop a countywide Early Learning Task Force</i> <i>Develop and maintain a management information system</i> Mini-grants to facilitate the development and support of eight parent leaders Facilitate collaborative activities needed to grow the initiative into a countywide collaborative

*Items in *italics* will be funded by the Napa County Commission with other than State Initiative or Planning and Implementation funds.

Napa Children and Families Commission
The Napa County Early Learning Initiative

b. What are the strengths and needs of the families and communities served by the targeted schools?

Introduction. The Napa Commission used several methods of gathering information about our high priority schools and countywide efforts to increase successful early learning:

- convened a forum of local health, education, early care and family support professionals to discuss the statewide initiative and brainstorm the possibilities for Napa County;
- surveyed all Kindergarten teachers at both Shearer and McPherson regarding the readiness of their current students during the first month of school;
- structured conversations with preschool teachers and parents, Shearer and McPherson school principals, child care planning and school curriculum representatives, and family resource centers.

A core of community stakeholders who participated in the above-mentioned forum, acted as reviewers of the draft application. Their input was used to refine and clarify the final application.

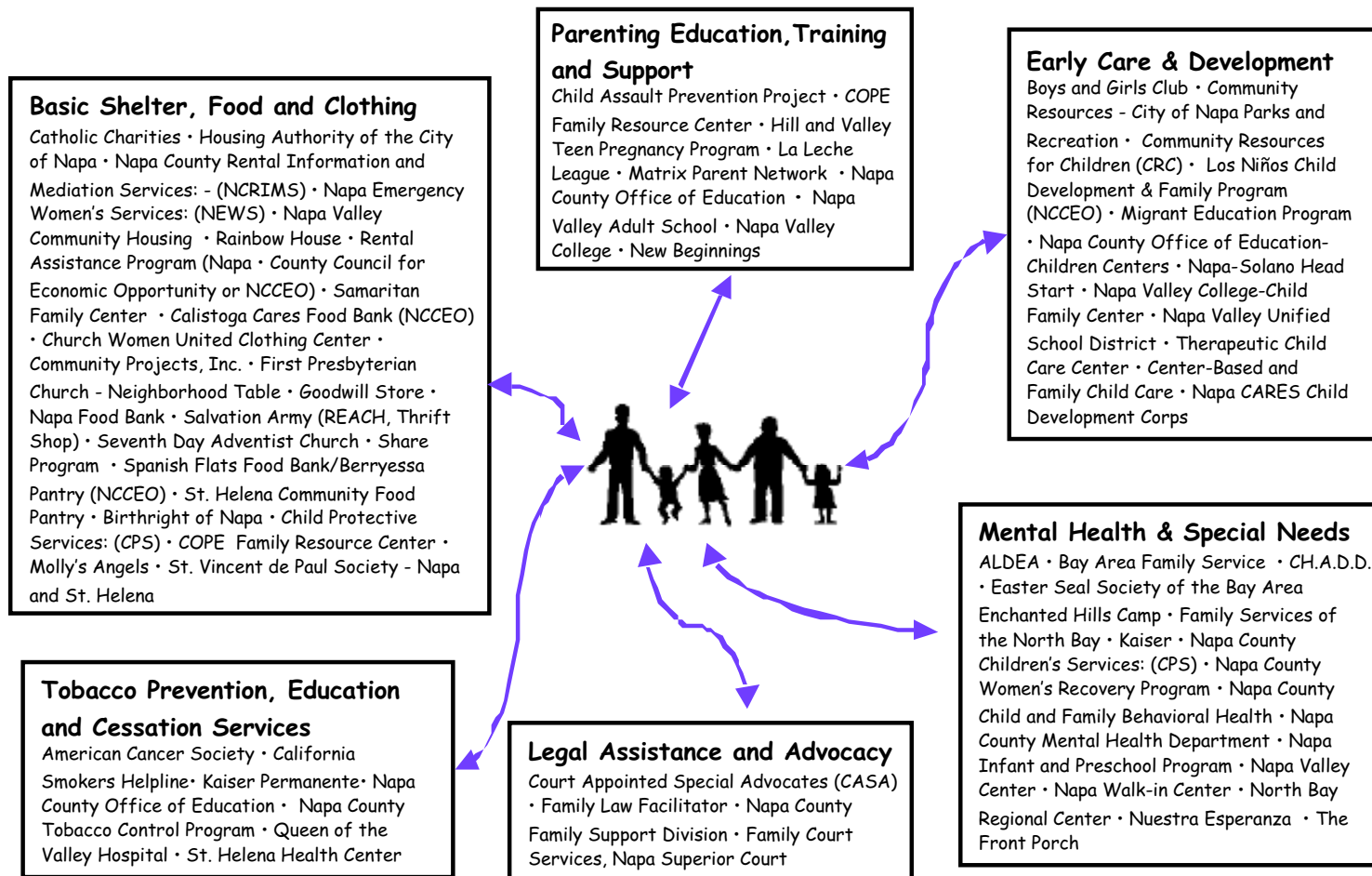
What did we learn? While not all inclusive, our information gathering process provided some consensus that the community would support the *value added* strategy reflected in this application. Here is what we learned from each component of the process:

Stakeholder Forum -

In regards strengths, participants emphasized that there are a number of school and community-based family support services in the community that provide home visiting, health services, mental health counseling, early intervention, early care and education (see Figure 1 on the following page). There is a strong commitment to training all family service professionals in a strength-based relational model of support. In fact, the Napa Commission has funded two consecutive years of Touchpoints training for Napa County professionals (e.g., health, mental health, early care and education). The key to a countywide early learning and readiness will be coordination and collaboration. Roundtable discussions produced the following major ideas for new strategies:

- Need to team with physicians on early identification and referral to family support services;
- Work on ways to identify families and children not associated with an early care or education providers;

Napa County Is Moving Towards a Comprehensive and Integrated System of Support Services for Children 0-5 and Their Families*



*a partial list

Figure 1

Napa Children and Families Commission
The Napa County Early Learning Initiative

- Consider alternative approaches to public education (e.g., shopping bags, refrigerator magnets, Welcome Baby Kits, eligibility workers);
- Take family classes on early learning to neighborhoods;
- Facilitate collaborative relationships between Kindergarten, and early care and education professionals to focus on developing consistent expectations for successful early learning;
- Need to make sure that Latino families are at the table and that approaches to early learning are culturally appropriate;
- Expand preschool opportunities for more children; and
- Consider an annual, countywide forum on early learning and readiness for school

Survey of Kindergarten Teachers -

We asked Kindergarten teachers at both high priority schools to think about their current students in the first month of school and answer some question regarding their readiness for school (using a survey developed by the Monterey County Commission). Here is a summary of what we learned from the survey:

- Current students are most prepared in large motor skills and hygiene and least prepared in pre-academic, small motor and communication skill areas (see Figure 2 on the following page).
- Fifty-eight percent of current students (N=209) were not proficient in English and twenty-six percent of those students were not proficient in their primary language.
- When asked about the major influences on children that they viewed as not ready for successful learning, teachers all identified the lack of preschool experiences as the primary influence (see Figure 3 on the following page).

Napa Children and Families Commission
 The Napa County Early Learning Initiative

Percent of Student Prepared by Readiness Areas by in First Month of Kindergarten (N=209)

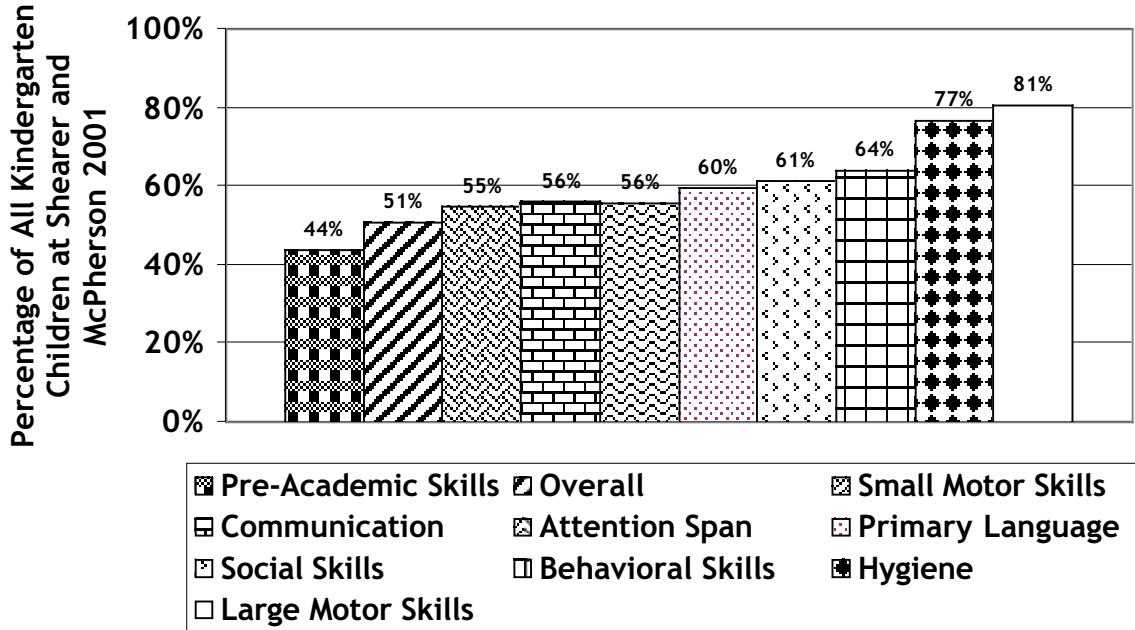


Figure 2

Major Influences on Children Not Prepared for School (N=209)

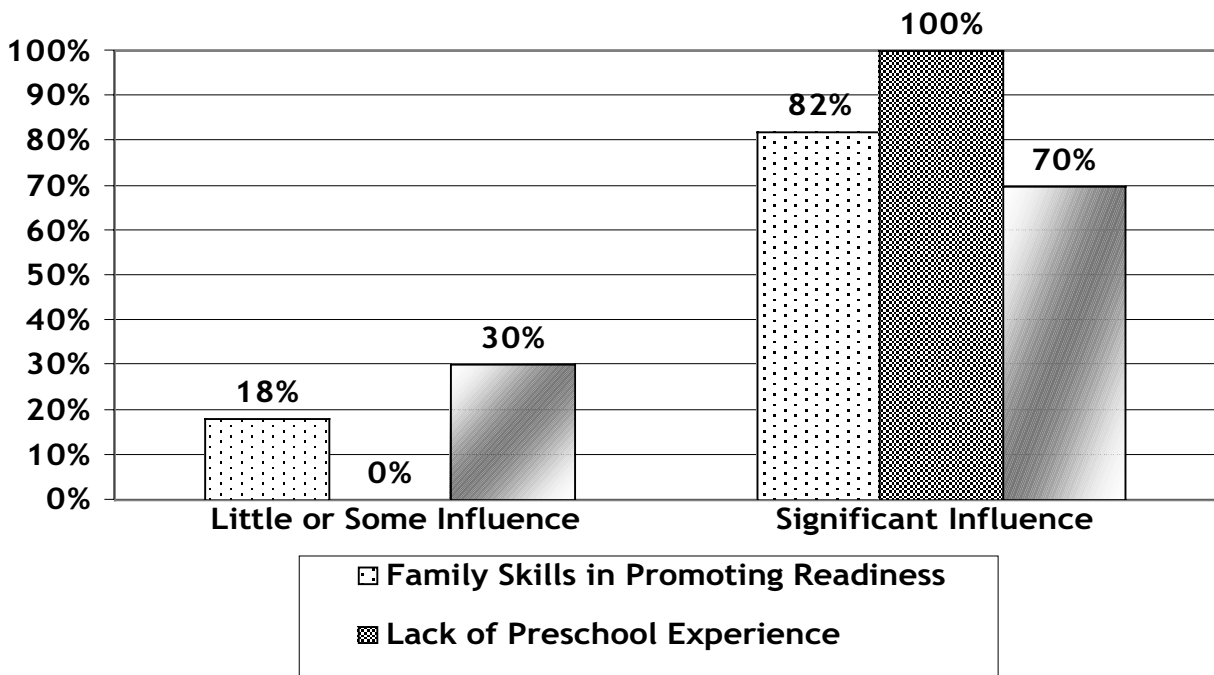


Figure 3

Napa Children and Families Commission
The Napa County Early Learning Initiative

Discussions with Shearer and McPherson School Principals

Principals at both Shearer and McPherson Schools were presented with this opportunity for an investment in early learning for children and families in their respective community areas. Each described an extensive support system for school-aged children and families. Those supports include:

Early Care and Education

- On-site state preschools at both schools.
- Ongoing relationships with local Head Start and area preschools (e.g., annual transition presentations).

Parenting/Family Support Services

- One school currently provides an activity-based, kindergarten transition program in April for families whose children will be attending in the next school year.
- The Napa City/County Library currently operates the Family Book Club that offers activities focused on encouraging reading at home.
- Both schools provide ongoing parent education workshops on selected topics (e.g., positive parenting, reading).
- Napa Adult Education provides evening classes for parents on literacy and English as a second language (some offer child care).

Health and Social Services

- Healthy Start programs with bilingual community liaisons providing support to families regarding food, shelter, transportation, health and mental health services.
- Ongoing health, mental health and family support and case management services from a variety of community-based organizations (e.g., Aldea, Napa County Health and Human Services, PUC/NVC Nursing Interns, Community Health Clinics, Healthy Families, Christina's Smile, COPE Family Resource Center)

Schools' Readiness for Children

- Family support teams that provide case carrier services from identification to service planning, home visits, school-based interventions and follow-up.
- A district Newcomer Center for children who are new to the country.
- In school and after school supports such as reading and math tutoring services, academic mentoring, homework clubs.

Napa Children and Families Commission
The Napa County Early Learning Initiative

- After school recreation programs operated by the City of Napa Parks and Recreation Department.

Infrastructure and Administration

- Participating members of the district wide Healthy Start Collaborative.
- Administrators of on-site state preschools.
- Parents, teachers and administrators work together on site committees for monitoring of school-wide, Title I programs.

The above is a partial listing of the services and activities that occur at these two high priority schools. With this given level of support for student success at school, the focus of the school readiness initiative must be reframed. That is, how can we best use the initiative to support and expand the capacity of these school-based centers (see Figure 4 on the following page for a visual description of Shearer Charter School) to include children 0-5 and their families?

Principals also indicated areas of need that must be addressed in order to facilitate the development of a success in learning initiative for children 0-5. For example, resources to:

- support the development of an articulated preschool curriculum for public and private preschools;
- facilitate co-training with Kindergarten, preschool, and neighborhood early care and education providers;
- expand preschool opportunities for more children; and
- provide more education (e.g., parents as teachers) opportunities for families.

Shearer Charter Elementary Community Learning Center

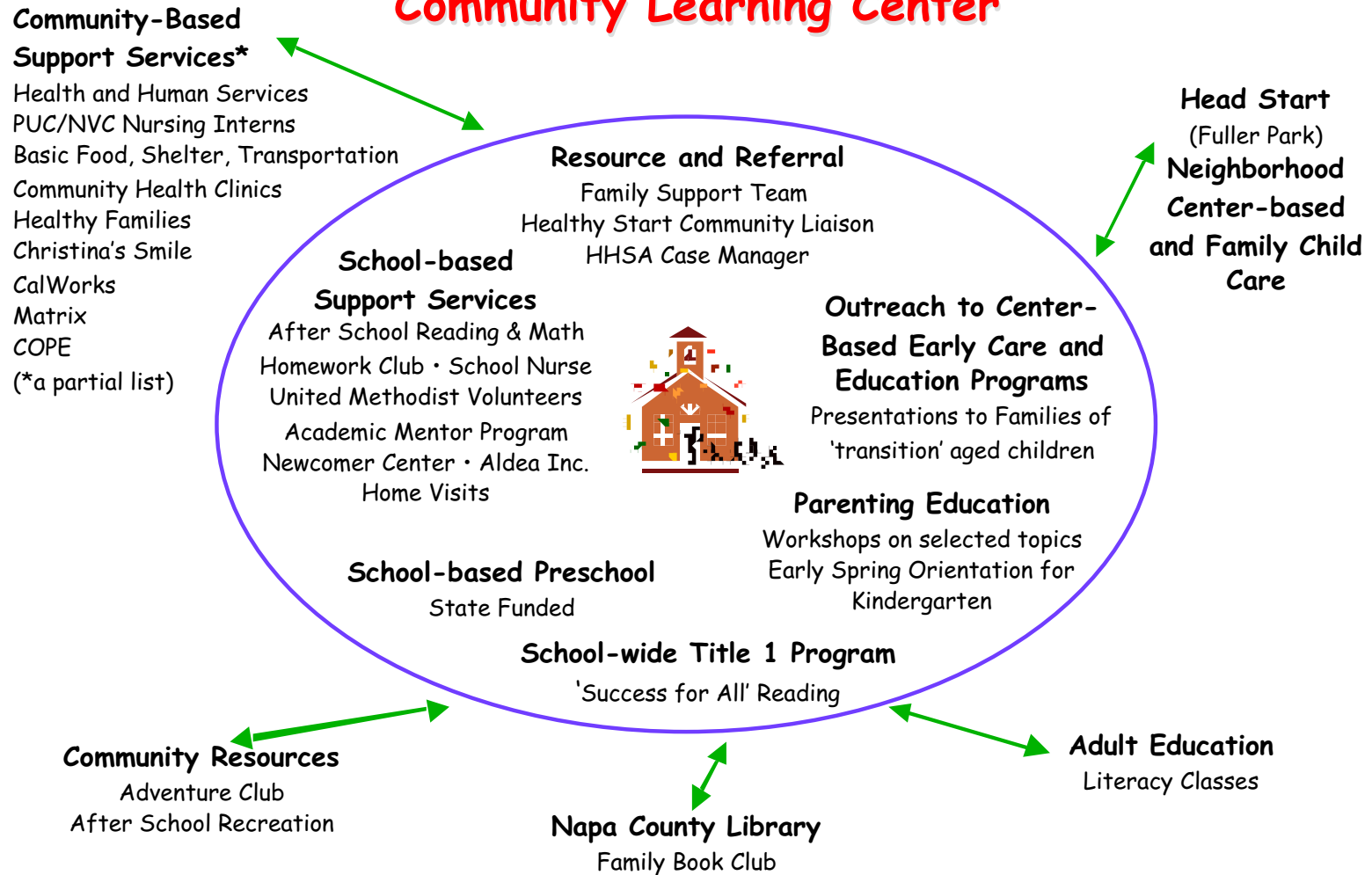


Figure 4

Napa Children and Families Commission
The Napa County Early Learning Initiative

Discussions with Parents, Preschool Teachers and Family Resource Center Personnel -

Over two sessions of the preschool located at Shearer, we talked to families (in Spanish and English as needed) about the preschool experiences of their sons and daughters.

- When asked how preschool might prepare their children for Kindergarten, parents mentioned most frequently: relating to other children; the enjoyment of going to school every day; learning colors and letters; learning language and more diverse ways of expression; and, understanding and following classroom rules.
- When asked what else would help, parents suggested: a lending library of books and educational videos; more opportunities to share experiences among parents; more suggestions about what to teach at home in order to connect with the lessons being taught in the classroom; and, a simple weekly report of what will be taught in the coming week.
- We also wanted to know what parents thought would make it easier for a family of a child (newborn to 3 years old) to connect with other families in the school neighborhood. Parents responded with suggestions that included: informational materials (e.g., lists of low cost or free clinics, health insurance resources, etc.); gatherings that help families get to know each other and their children who are already enrolled; flyers sent to every home in the neighborhood; more preschool classrooms; more preschool subsidies for parents who cannot afford private pay child care; and, home visits by teachers to reach children who are on the waiting list for preschool.

We also talked to preschool teachers at Shearer about their thoughts on several key topics related to early learning success.

- When asked what would help support the involvement of families in the learning process of their children, they responded: develop a handbook for parents at the start of the school year that describes the preschool curriculum and the role of parents in a child's education; and, more time to talk to parents both individually and in groups.
- Teachers indicated that if they were to design a school readiness program, it would include: time and staffing to conduct a weekly gathering for parents that focuses on selected topics (e.g., tips about teaching at home, nutritious snacks, dental hygiene); build a library of age appropriate books in both languages, and make them available on a loan basis; as an alternative to limited space on campus, serving families via home visits; build a playground and redesign the bathrooms for preschoolers; and, add additional classroom space for more children.

Napa Children and Families Commission
The Napa County Early Learning Initiative

What We Learned about Early Care and Education. By reviewing the Napa County Child Care Planning Council’s Strategic Plan, here’s what we learned, in general, about early care and education in the County:

- There are many early care and education resources in Napa County. However, there is a shortage of availability for all of these resources and some are not available at all (e.g., out-of-home sick child care). Many families are on waiting lists for child care (both subsidized and non-subsidized) or have had to divide their children among providers.
- There are a variety of early care and education subsidies available for eligible, low-income families in Napa County. However, funding for these subsidies is not adequate as there is currently a waiting list of 653 children from 442 families. In addition, families who are not eligible for subsidies often pay more than twice the ten percent of income guideline for the annual cost of child care. There is a need for additional public and private subsidies for child care to assist most families.
- The early care and education workforce in Napa County currently employs 500+ workers in licensed facilities. The average annual salary for in Napa County for someone with three years of experience is approximately \$16,800. Turnover rates in Napa County are estimated to be in the 30-39% range annually. Napa County is experiencing a severe shortage of personnel trained to work in early care and education programs. However, the Napa County CARES initiative has been operating for one year and there are expectations that it will help decrease turnover rates and provide adequate incentives to maintain and build the workforce.

Early Care and Education in High Priority School Areas. The countywide issues in availability, accessibility and personnel apply to the Shearer and McPherson areas as well. Below are specific data regarding both schools:

**Current Child Care Capacity in
 Shearer and McPherson Community Areas (All Ages)**

School	Centers	Capacity	Family	Capacity	Total Capacity
Shearer*	9	272	11	96	368
McPherson**	6	358	8	69	427

* **Note:** Two of the centers and five of the family child care homes will accept infants.

** **Note:** One of the centers and seven of the family child care homes will accept infants.

Napa Children and Families Commission
The Napa County Early Learning Initiative

c. What are the results expected for children and families (Year 1)

GOAL	DESIRED OUTCOMES	STRATEGY	INDICATOR	INDICATOR DATA SOURCE	BASELINE DATA SOURCE
1. Expand the current activities at both high priority schools for increasing the early learning success of school-aged children to children 0-5 and their families within their respective community areas.	Increased opportunities for children to have a preschool experience prior to Kindergarten	Expand early learning success program to include 100 children not currently attending preschool and their parents	75% of goal (100 children and 100 parents)	Teachers will track attendance of children and parents	There is currently no program for these children
	Increase in identification of families of preschool aged children prior to Kindergarten	Expand the hours of Bilingual Community Liaisons for outreach activities	75% of goal (100 families)	Community liaisons will complete brief outreach form on each identified family	There is currently no outreach for 0-5 families in either school area
	Increase in understanding of all early care and education professionals regarding early learning success and readiness for school and readiness for school	Support efforts to develop an articulated preschool curriculum through facilitation and resources to encourage attendance	A jointly developed preschool curriculum will be provided to all Kindergarten, preschool and family care providers in the NVUSD	A completed preschool curriculum	There is currently no agreed upon preschool curriculum
	Increase in number of parents who have information about early learning success and school readiness	Provide six evening workshops for parents of preschoolers at both school site preschools that are available to all neighborhood families	75% of goal (60 parents across both schools)	Teachers will track attendance of children and parents	There is currently no workshops on early learning success
	Increase in number of children who are registered for school before June 15 th	Pilot an early registration campaign with media materials and outreach activities	75% of goal (150 children districtwide)	School secretaries will track early enrollment	Data from last year's enrollment prior to June 15 th

Napa Children and Families Commission
The Napa County Early Learning Initiative

	<p>Increase in number of families who receive information about early enrollment and early learning success</p>	<p>Coordinate with four existing community events (e.g., information fairs, fiestas, fundraisers) to provide needed support for early Kindergarten registration and take-home information on early learning activities</p>	<p>75% of goal (100 families)</p>	<p>Event organizers will track number of early learning activity packets and enrollment forms distributed at each event</p>	<p>There are currently no organized events that include distribution of for early Kindergarten registration and take-home information on early learning activities</p>
--	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Napa Children and Families Commission
The Napa County Early Learning Initiative

GOAL	DESIRED OUTCOMES	STRATEGY	INDICATOR	INDICATOR DATA SOURCE	BASELINE DATA SOURCE
<p>2. Initiate a countywide collaborative to coordinate and support activities that promote early learning success at all 25 elementary schools in the six districts of Napa County.</p>	<p>Increase in countywide collaboration and activity regarding school readiness</p>	<p>Napa Commission will provide administrative support for the development of a countywide Early Learning Task Force</p> <p>Mini-grants for family resource centers to facilitate the development and support of parent leaders serving on the countywide Task Force</p> <p>Develop and maintain a management information system regarding all countywide readiness efforts</p>	<p>Participation by all six districts, parents, and early care and education professionals on the Task Force</p> <p>Increased number of grant applications for school readiness and success in early learning activities</p> <p>75% of goal (eight parents serving on the Task Force)</p> <p>Quarterly reports will be provided to the task force</p>	<p>Administrative assistant will track attendance data at task force meetings</p> <p>Administrative assistant will track applications through information sharing at task force meetings</p> <p>Administrative assistant will track attendance data at task force meetings</p> <p>Administrative assistant will input data provided by task force participants</p>	<p>There is currently no countywide collaborative effort regarding early learning success and school readiness</p> <p>In the past year, three grants have been awarded to school districts in Napa County</p> <p>There is currently no task force</p> <p>There is currently no management information system</p>

Napa Children and Families Commission
The Napa County Early Learning Initiative

	Increase in families receiving information about activity-based early learning activities	Reprint <i>Helping Your Child Get Ready for School</i> , an activity-based guide for parents of children 0-5	All 2,000 copies from first printing will be distributed	Administrative assistant will log distribution of guides by agency or organization and number	Information about early learning activities is not currently distributed in a coordinated way
	Increase in families and early care and education professionals receiving information about family support services and early learning activities	Development of a web-based Guide to Napa County Family Support Services and Training	75% of goal (20 web page 'hits' per week)	Administrative assistant will track web page 'hits' on a weekly basis	There is currently no web site available for this information
	Increase knowledge base of parents about child development, early learning success, health and nutrition	Establishment of a free consultation service for families of children 0-5 on developmental and early learning	75% of goal (192 children)	Nurse consultant to complete summary information sheet on each consult	There is currently no similar service available
	Increase in countywide collaboration and activity regarding school readiness	Collaborative activities needed to grow the initiative into a countywide network of school readiness activities (e.g., funding for countywide projects, approaching the business community for support)	Two collaborative applications for funding; twenty four contacts with local businesses; and, a task force retreat	Project EARLY coordinator will track activities and report to task force	There are currently no collaborative, countywide, school readiness activities
	Increase knowledge base of parents about early learning success and school readiness	Spanish language translators for parent trainings on successful early learning activities	75% of goal (translation for 80 families)	Project EARLY coordinator will track activities and report to task force	Currently no parent trainings on early learning success offered in English and Spanish

2. SERVICES AND PARTNERS

a. What strategies and partners are currently in place that address the 5 “Essential and Coordinated Elements”?

As mentioned in Question 1 of the application, there are a number of support services currently in operation at both of the high priority schools that focus on successful learning for school-aged children. In this first year of the initiative, we will focus on expanding some of those school-based practices (e.g., Kindergarten transition program, community liaisons, early enrollment, development of a consensus-driven preschool curriculum) to reach out to families of children 0-5 in those two neighborhood areas.

In addition to those activities, there are several other important efforts that will serve to facilitate our progress towards a countywide early learning initiative. We have recruited the organizations involved with those projects as collaborative partners. Those efforts include:

Schools’ Readiness for Children and Parent/Family Support

Project F.I.R.S.T. Funded by the Napa Commission, this project will be used as our primary source of local match funds in Year 1 of the initiative. Napa Valley Unified School District’s *Families Inspired and Ready for School Time* (F.I.R.S.T.) is a summer, kindergarten transition program for 60+ children and families. It is a cycle of 10 bilingual 2-hour classes for entering kindergartners and their parents in the kindergarten setting. Kindergarten, State Preschool teachers, and Adult School parent educators will support the parent-child learning team, provide opportunities for success in a school setting, and encourage a strong relationship between families and their elementary school.

Adult family members will meet with an adult educator during the first hour to participate in learning activities, parent involvement skills, and find out about community resources. At the same time, children are in another group with the kindergarten and preschool teachers. Adults will have the opportunity to discuss their experiences and practice with the books and materials in their take home kit. During the parent education portion of the program parents hear about parenting (e.g., self-esteem in times of stress), education (e.g., reading at home, after school program referrals), and health care practices (e.g., immunizations, hearing and vision screenings), as they apply to kindergarten readiness.

In the children’s group, the teachers have an early opportunity to meet and observe children and suggest referrals such as hearing and vision screenings based on the children’s needs. The program will use activities, songs, and books related to such topics as self esteem, communication, reading, classification and patterns,

Napa Children and Families Commission
The Napa County Early Learning Initiative

health and routines. The two groups combine at the second hour for interactive activities based on the topic presented to adults in the previous hour.

As stated earlier, additional funding will be provided to the District to develop a weekend program in the Spring that focuses on children and families not associated with a preschool. These families will be identified by community liaisons at both Shearer and McPherson as well as through the Migrant Education Early Start home visitation program.

Shearer Charter School Spring Welcome Night. Through Napa Commission funding, Shearer kindergarten teachers have developed a kindergarten readiness kit. The kit contains pencils, markers, paper, scissors, number and letter charts, etc. In order to promote the kit, invitations to attend an evening workshop are sent to all parents of incoming kindergarten students. The school's bilingual Kindergarten teachers host the workshop. In addition to providing an opportunity for socializing, teachers talk to parents about the contents and the importance of the readiness kit. Also, parents are able to see and discuss a video about school readiness.

During Year 1 of the initiative, funding will be used to expand the program to McPherson School. In addition, it is hoped that teachers will be available as mentors to other schools that apply for mini-grants to start similar programs in Year 2 of the initiative.

Parent/Family Support and Early Care and Education

Project Enhancing Accessibility and Readiness for Learning by Young children (E.A.R.L.Y.). This is a federally funded, 17-month project managed by the Napa County Office of Education. The major goals of this project are to; (1) increase parent effectiveness in promoting learning readiness; (2) increase early care and education capacity to promote early learning; (3) improve accessibility of early care and education programs for children with disabilities; (4) improve preparation, retention and compensation for early care and education providers; and (5) increase a collaborative model of service delivery. All of the objectives for this project will directly benefit our countywide initiative to promote early learning and school readiness, for example:

- 36 hours of training for 160 caregivers and providers on how to incorporate early learning activities into the daily lives of young children;
- 8 hours of training for 100 caregivers and providers in early learning activities through the Napa County CARES program;

Napa Children and Families Commission
The Napa County Early Learning Initiative

- 20,000 parents will be exposed to early learning readiness through blanket public service announcements on cable television, radio, grocery bags, etc.;
- 600 parents will use lunch-box learning kits borrowed from the libraries;
- 1,600 parents will receive learning readiness materials and information through the Napa Commission's Welcome Baby Kit;
- 180 parents will participate in peer-to-peer parenting networks through the Family Resource Center and Healthy Start Centers;
- 400 parents will attend English-language and 300 parents will attend Spanish language workshops that focus on early learning; and
- 1,000 parents will attend the parent workshop on early learning provided by Dr. T. Berry Brazelton.

As previously stated, the Director for this project will expand his or her duties to include some collaborative activities on behalf of the countywide initiative (e.g., outreach to the business community, participation on the Task Force, identifying funding sources for additional countywide school readiness projects),

Migrant Education Early Start (MEES). MEES is a statewide, family literacy and parenting program for parents and their preschool children, birth to seven years of age. Home visits to families with children, ages three to five, are given priority for services. Project activities support the children's early childhood development and help parents improve their English abilities and native language literacy and knowledge of parenting strategies.

As our collaborative partner, MEES home visitor will distribute early enrollment flyers to families in the Shearer and McPherson areas and school readiness information throughout the county. In addition, they will refer families of young children without connections to early care and education programs to the Spring Kindergarten transition program.

Health and Social Services

TouchPoints Training Initiative. In a collaborative effort between Napa County Health and Human Services, Napa County Office of Education and Harvest Pediatrics, the Commission is funding the education and training in a relational, strengths-based model of family support commonly known as Touchpoints. Each new provider who is trained, joins a network of support for families and providers that shares a universal language and philosophical approach. As this network

Napa Children and Families Commission
The Napa County Early Learning Initiative

grows, it forms ever stronger alliances and relationships with families, among providers, and, ultimately, unifies and strengthens the community.

The goal of the project is to train 150 family service and support providers (e.g., health, child care and development) in the process. As our collaborative partners, TouchPoints training will be provided to any early care and education providers who wish to enroll as well as through the Napa CARES Child Development Corps training.

Early Care and Education

Napa CARES. With funding from the State and Napa Commissions, Napa County Office of Education, Community Resources for Children, Napa Valley and Pacific Union Colleges collaborated in the development of a CARES initiative in Napa County. As in other counties, the goal of the Napa CARES initiative is to retain early childhood education professionals and to increase the quality of their educational preparation. The program has already awarded 242 stipends to qualified early childhood education professionals who are pursuing additional educational and training activities. Educational partners (Napa Valley and Pacific Union Colleges) have already noted an increase in enrollment in their early childhood education classes.

As a collaborative partner, CARES will support the countywide initiative through the distribution of early learning and school readiness information to Corps members. In addition, one or more of the Corps training activities will focus on preschool curricula that promotes early learning success as well as methods of facilitating successful Kindergarten transition.

Raising a Reader (RAR). Through the philanthropy of the Napa Community Foundation, a literacy project for about 900+ low-income children and families will be initiated in Napa County within the next year. Using a curriculum established by a similarly funded program in another county, early care and education providers will participate by distributing books and videos on loan and supporting parents in using the materials. The goal of the project is to increase reading time in families of young children.

As a collaborative partner, we are working the RAR Steering Committee to make sure that early care and education providers in our high priority school areas are included in the pilot component of the program. We will also encourage RAR participants to distribute early learning and school readiness information as it is developed through the Task Force and its collaborative partners.

Napa Children and Families Commission
The Napa County Early Learning Initiative

b. What new strategies and partners will be implemented to further address or expand/enhance the 5 “Essential and Coordinated Elements”?

The matrix of our proposed activities by Essential and Coordinated Elements was previously provided to the reader (see page 8). Below, listed in greater detail by collaborative partners, is an outline of the new strategies we intend to pursue:

Napa County Children and Families Commission

In addition to the funding provided by the State Commission and the match provided by the funding of Project FIRST (Napa Valley Unified School District), the Commission intends to fund the following school readiness activities:

- We will fund up to 20 hours per month for the support of a countywide Early Learning Task Force from the administrative assistant hired by the Commission to support the Parent Connection, a collaborative group of Napa County family support providers. The Task Force will be composed of the Parent Connection collaborative partners, parents, school districts, and early care and education providers. It will meet approximately six times per year to discuss countywide school readiness efforts, support collaborative initiatives and offer input to the Commission regarding future funding. It will include the COPE, Calistoga, and Matrix Family Resource Centers as well as Nuestra Esperanza.
- We will also fund up to 10 hours per month from the Parent Connection administrative assistant to develop and maintain a management information system regarding all countywide readiness efforts (e.g., events and activities, demographics, attendance, satisfaction). This system will be aligned with the State Commission evaluation strategy and cover such data elements as: number of children/families served by countywide effort; satisfaction with services; types and geographic distribution of countywide services; collaborative partners; coordination with schools and early care providers; and, descriptions of key features of program services delivery systems, and approaches.

We also plan to development of two parent education and support resources in both English and Spanish.

- The first is a reprint of *Helping Your Child Get Ready for School*. This is an activity-based child development guide for parents of children 0-5. It promotes parents as teachers and ways to support success in early learning prior to Kindergarten. Copies of this booklet will be made widely available through all of the Commission’s collaborative partners and the Baby Kit program.

Napa Children and Families Commission
The Napa County Early Learning Initiative

- Finally, the Commission will fund the development of a web-based *Guide to Napa County Family Support Services and Training*. This web resource for parents and providers will be produced under the auspices of the Parent Connection, a collaborative group of Napa County family support providers.

COPE Family Resource Center (COPE)

We plan to contract with COPE for 5 hours a week from their bilingual Nurse consultant. She will be available for any family in the County who would like a free, one-hour consultation on child development. That is, information about the developmental expectations of children and how parents can be effective teachers for their young children. The consult will include children (0-5) and their parents. In addition to child development, the nurse will ask basic health screening questions, provide information about health resources as needed, and offer an information packet about local family resources. This information packet will include *Helping Your Child Get Ready for School*.

Napa County Office of Education (NCOE)

In order to develop countywide linkages for the school readiness efforts now occurring in Napa County, we intend to contract with NCOE for some collaborative responsibilities. We plan to add 5 hours per week to the halftime Project Director position that has been created in order to administer Project EARLY. This project is a federally funded, countywide training and education effort to promote learning readiness.

These additional hours will be used to facilitate the collaborative activities needed to *grow* the initiative into a countywide network of school readiness activities within four years. For example: (1) pursuing additional funds for countywide projects that enhance collaboration; and (2) approaching the business community to promote formal and informal methods of supporting early learning.

Finally, we will provide funds for Project EARLY to hire Spanish language interpreters for selected parent trainings. The project intends to provide a variety of workshops for parents on general (e.g., child development) and specific (e.g., using daily activities for learning opportunities) school readiness topics.

Nuestra Esperanza

In order to reach families of 0-5 year olds who are not typically identified (those not associated with early care and education providers), we plan to coordinate with Nuestra Esperanza. That is, we will coordinate with four existing outreach events (e.g., information fairs, fiestas, fundraisers) to distribute information on early registration for Kindergarten and school readiness activities in the Shearer and McPherson Elementary School area and in the greater City of Napa community. NVUSD and the Napa Children and Families Commission will provide school

Napa Children and Families Commission
The Napa County Early Learning Initiative

registration and readiness information. Contract funds be used to support staff from Nuestra Esperanza in explaining the importance of the information and helping families complete registration forms as needed.

Napa Valley Unified School District (NVUSD)

There a number of value-added components that will serve to supplement, not supplant efforts within the district and, in particular, at Shearer and McPherson Schools.

- The Napa Children and Families Commission awarded a contract to NVUSD to initiate a summer program for children transitioning to Kindergarten in the Fall. Project FIRST is currently focused on children attending preschool at four elementary schools (including Shearer and McPherson). We intend to contract with NVUSD to expand the program to include children not currently attending preschool and who would not necessarily be transitioning to Kindergarten within the next year (2-5 years of age). The parent and child program would be offered on concurrent Saturdays and use the FIRST curriculum to promote school readiness activities at an earlier age.
- We intend to contract with NVUSD to expand the hours of Bilingual Community Liaisons (Healthy Start) at Shearer and McPherson Schools. Five additional hours per week per liaison (with funding for additional supervision hours by the Healthy Start supervisor and school nurses) would be used for outreach activities focused on identifying families in the area with 0-5 year olds not currently connected with a preschool. Liaisons would use their current resource approach regarding family support services, health and mental health referrals and would, in addition, distribute school readiness information and promote early Kindergarten registration.
- We will also contract with NVUSD to support their efforts to develop an articulated preschool curriculum. The contract will include funds for resources, facilitators and teacher release time (as needed) to bring together Kindergarten, state and private preschool teachers and early care providers to reach consensus on a curriculum that will promote success in Kindergarten. While it will be a district wide effort, it will focus on early care and education providers in the Shearer and McPherson School community areas.
- In order to respond to the requests of both parents and preschool teachers, we will contract with the district to provide six evening workshops at both school preschool sites open to all families in adjoining neighborhoods. These workshops will focus on selected topics that will facilitate successful learning experiences at home.

Napa Children and Families Commission
The Napa County Early Learning Initiative

- Finally, we intend to contract with the District to pilot an early Kindergarten registration campaign. In addition to the contract with Nuestra Esperanza, we will request the District to develop a flyer for distribution through markets (e.g., grocery bags), churches, laundromats as well as typical media coverage through public service announcements and newspaper ads. As an incentive, parents who register their children for Kindergarten at Shearer and McPherson Schools prior to May 31st will be offered a school readiness activity kit. Early registration will promote early identification of families and opportunities for contact by Community Liaisons or Kindergarten teachers. Funding will be provided to McPherson School for Spring evening activities similar to those currently funded by the Napa Commission at Shearer Charter School.

COPE, Calistoga, MATRIX Family Resource Centers, and Nuestra Esperanza

We will develop mini-grants for all four family resource centers to facilitate the development and support of parent leaders to serve on the countywide Task Force. These grants will be used to provide transportation, child care and other support needed to encourage parents to attend and participate as equal members of the Early Learning Task Force.

School Readiness Assessment Chart. On the following page, you will find the self-assessment chart provided by the State Commission as another way to display ongoing and proposed services by Essential Elements.

Napa Children and Families Commission
The Napa County Early Learning Initiative

Napa County School Readiness Assessment Chart																											
Targeted School - Community	School Statistics			Family Resource Centers			Early Care and Education			Parenting and Family Support			Health and Social Services			School Capacity		Infrastructure									
	Enrollment	# free/reduced lunch	%free/reduced lunch	Healthy Start Center	School-based Center	School-linked Center (in the community)	State Preschool	Neighborhood Preschools and Child Care	Other: Raising a Reader	Other: Project EARLY	Other: Project FIRST	Comprehensive Services	Parent Education	Home Visitation	Family Advocacy	Employment Supports	Adult Education: ESL & GED	Family Literacy (Family Book Club)	Health Services	Substance Abuse Services	Mental Health Services	Case Management	Kindergarten Transition Program	Coordination between Early Care Providers and School	School Readiness Task Force	Other _____	Other _____
Shearer Charter Elementary School	756	635	84%																								Both Shearer and McPherson have family support teams that provide support to at-risk children from referral to
McPherson Elementary School	706	706	75%																								planning to case carrier services.

Legend		Services in Operation
		Services Planned

Figure 5

Napa Children and Families Commission
The Napa County Early Learning Initiative

c. *What are the specific roles and commitments provided by the participating schools?*

Explain the rationale for the configuration of school(s) served by the School Readiness Program (or System). Provide evidence to support the community and/or school(s)' capacity, commitment, and expertise with implementing the School Readiness Program. Describe the role the school district(s), school(s), and county office of education will play in ensuring coordination with the county and other service providers, integrating School Readiness Centers/Programs with education reform efforts, using appropriate external experts, and avoiding duplication of efforts. *The commitments of the schools/school districts to the School Readiness Programs need to be demonstrated in a MOU, signature by the principal and/or superintendent, letter of support, or other method (if another method is used, please describe it here).*

Shearer and McPherson Schools were selected as they were identified as our high priority schools on the 2000 API. As important, however, they have extensive experience in managing programs and grants designed to support the success of school-aged children from low-income, migrant and non-English speaking families. For example, both schools have implemented and currently manage Title 1 school-wide programs, Healthy Start, preschools, after-school mentoring, and family support teams.

The following are key elements of the commitment of both schools to this initiative:

- Principals from both schools will be asked to serve on the Napa County Early Learning Task Force. Task Force meetings will provide a forum for both schools to report on their outreach activities
- Kindergarten teachers from both schools will participate in planning (and staffing as available) for the additional Saturday series of preschool experiences designed to promote learning success at an earlier age.
- Classroom space at both schools will be available (whenever possible) for the above-mentioned Saturday series as well as the additional, evening parent workshop series.
- School staff will supervise additional outreach activities provided by Healthy Start community liaisons.
- Kindergarten and preschool teachers at both school will participate in the development of the district-wide preschool curriculum. In addition, both schools will help identify additional center-based and family early care and education providers to participate in that effort.

Napa Children and Families Commission
The Napa County Early Learning Initiative

- Both schools will also participate in the early Kindergarten registration campaign. That is, they will support efforts to distribute flyers throughout their respective community neighborhoods. In addition, they will provide school readiness activity kits to families who register prior to May 31st.
- Finally, Shearer Kindergarten teachers will provide support as need for McPherson teachers to implement an evening activity for parents of incoming students in the Spring.

The Napa County Office of Education, through the activities of the Project EARLY grant, will help support the countywide initiative. The Project Director of that effort will be requested to serve on the Task Force. He or she will have an opportunity to report on collaborative, Project Early activities as well as outreach efforts on behalf of the initiative and previously mentioned in this document.

Contracts with between the Napa Commission, NVUSD and NCOE will be developed for the activities detailed in this application. Contracts will require periodic reports on progress and expenditures as well as meetings with representatives of the Napa Commission as needed.

d. How will coordination/integration of current and new services and resources for this School Readiness Program be addressed and supported?

See Table 2 on the following pages for a description of the coordination/integration and participant identification elements of proposed activities.

Napa Children and Families Commission
The Napa County Early Learning Initiative

Table 2. Summary of Proposed Activities by Coordination and Identification Elements

Elements by Age	Shearer and McPherson Communities	Napa County	Coordination and Integration	Identification of Participating Children and Families
Early Care and Education				
2-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand Kindergarten transition and preschool experience program to include up to 100 children (3-5) not currently attending preschool 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spring, Saturday preschool experience program will be coordinated by NVUSD to ensure that children are not already served by a preschool program and/or transition program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Criteria for participation will be based on state preschool criteria; referrals will be made to the Project FIRST staff by Health Start Community Liaisons, State Preschools, Migrant Education Early Start home visitors, and COPE Family Resource Center
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reformat, translate and print 2,000 copies of Helping Your Child Get Ready for School in English and Spanish 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrative support staff at the Commission will track distribution in coordination with the Task Force 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Priorities for distribution to district and countywide early learning activities will be established
3-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support efforts to develop a district wide articulated preschool curriculum for public and private preschools 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NVUSD will coordinate this activity to ensure that Shearer, McPherson and local early care and education providers are represented 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family representatives on the Task Force will be invited to participate

Napa Children and Families Commission
The Napa County Early Learning Initiative

Elements by Age	Shearer and McPherson Communities	Napa County	Coordination and Integration	Identification of Participating Children and Families
Parenting/Family Support Services				
0-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand the Kindergarten transition program to include a parent component for up to 100 families Provide six evening workshops for 60 families of preschoolers at both school sites Coordinate with four local events to distribute information and support early registration for Kindergarten and school readiness activities for 100 or more families 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinated by NVUSD to ensure that families are not served by a preschool program and/or transition program Coordinated by school staff to ensure workshop topics are selected by parents, Kindergarten and preschool teachers Coordinated by Nuestra Esperanza to ensure that distribution is focused on families in the Shearer and McPherson areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Criteria for participation will be based on state preschool criteria Criteria for participation will be those families living within the Shearer or McPherson school areas Nuestra Esperanza serves primarily low income, Hispanic families throughout Napa County
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a web-based Guide to Napa County Family Support Services and Training Provide Spanish language translators for selected parent trainings on early learning activities for at least 80 families 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinated by the Commission in conjunction with the Task Force and Parent Connection to ensure that content is based on family need Coordinated by Project EARLY to ensure that workshops are focused on success in early learning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access to this service is open to all Napa County families as well as early care and education providers Project EARLY activities are focused on low income families throughout Napa County

Napa Children and Families Commission
The Napa County Early Learning Initiative

Health and Social Services	Shearer and McPherson Communities	Napa County	Coordination and Integration	Identification of Participating Children and Families
0-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand hours of community liaisons for outreach activities focused on identifying 100+ families with 0-5 year olds not associated with early learning and education providers 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supervision of outreach activities will be provided by Healthy Start school start to ensure that activities are focused on identification of families not currently associated with early care and education providers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Families not currently associated with early care and education providers are typically on waiting lists for preschool or child care stipends or are new to the area and not aware of local family support services
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide a free, one-hour consultations on child development and basic health screening for 192 children 0-5 and their families 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordination of this service will be provided by COPE Family Resource Center 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> While this service will be open to all Napa County families, priority will be given to families who are unable to access other family support services
Schools' Readiness for Children				
3-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pilot a campaign to increase early enrollment by an additional 150 children (districtwide) Develop a Spring evening activities program for 40 or more families 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinated by NVUSD to ensure that distribution of public information is varied and district wide Coordinated by McPherson School staff to ensure that participants are potential students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This component of the initiative is focused on families who do not use 'typical,' local media resources This component will be open to families of all potential McPherson Kindergarten students

Napa Children and Families Commission
The Napa County Early Learning Initiative

Infrastructure and Administration	Shearer and McPherson Communities	Napa County	Coordination and Integration	Identification of Participating Children and Families
0-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supervision of Bilingual Community Liaisons in outreach activities 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provided by Healthy Start Coordinator and school nurses at Shearer and McPherson 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liaisons will focus on outreach to neighborhoods suggested by other families
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a countywide Early Learning Task Force Develop and maintain a management information system Mini-grants to facilitate the development and support of eight parent leaders Facilitate collaborative activities needed to grow the initiative into a countywide collaborative 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinated by Commission staff to ensure countywide participation Coordinated by Commission staff to ensure continuous updates and timely reports Coordinated by the four identified family resource centers to ensure that family representatives on the Task Force are supported Coordinated by the Project EARLY Director and the Task Force to ensure that activities are focused on securing additional funding for collaborative, countywide school readiness activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants will include representatives of all six local districts Reports will be reviewed by the Task forces and family representatives will be asked about current and potential data elements Family resource centers will be provided with guidelines in selecting family representatives for the Task Force While all resources will be pursued, focus for funding will be for low income and other families identified as needing additional support in facilitating early success in learning for their children

3. OPERATIONS

a. How has/will collaborative planning and decision making be accomplished?

As earlier described, the Napa County Early Learning Task Force will meet at least six times per year to discuss countywide school readiness efforts, support collaborative initiatives and offer input to the Commission regarding future funding. Task force members will include representatives from all six school districts; contracting agencies; Napa County Health and Human Services; Shearer and McPherson Schools; early care and education providers; and, Napa Valley and Pacific Union colleges. The task force will take the lead in developing goals and designing the Year 2 Early Learning Initiative Activity Plan.

As important as the representatives mentioned above, at least eight members of the task force will be family representatives. As mentioned earlier in this application, we will be providing funds to all four family resource centers (e.g., COPE, Nuestra Esperanza) to facilitate the development and support of parent leaders. Resource centers will be requested to focus their recruitment on parents from families of 0-5 years olds, children with disabilities, and who are Spanish speaking. These funds will be used to provide transportation, child care and other support (e.g., translation) needed to encourage parents to attend and participate as equal members.

The Napa Commission through its staff and consultants will provide contract monitoring and evaluation for district and countywide initiative activities. In addition, a School Readiness Subcommittee will be established to review progress on the initiative on a quarterly basis. All reports will be provided to the task force for review and comment. In addition, the Commission will provide administrative support (e.g., scheduling, minutes, agendas, distribution of documents, development and maintenance of a management information system) for the task force.

Napa Children and Families Commission
The Napa County Early Learning Initiative

- b. How does your staffing and professional development support the results and strategies for the 5 “Essential and Coordinated Elements” for the children and families to be served?*

See Table 3 on the following pages for a description of proposed activities by training and staff qualifications.

Napa Children and Families Commission
The Napa County Early Learning Initiative

Table 3. Summary of Proposed Activities by Training Component and Staff Training Qualifications

Elements by Age	Shearer and McPherson Communities	Napa County	Training Component	Staff Training Qualifications
Early Care and Education				
2-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand Kindergarten transition and preschool experience program to include up to 100 children (3-5) not currently attending preschool 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child and parent training will in English and Spanish as needed Child and parent curricula will be developed by a local consultant and reviewed by an Advisory Committee that includes local early care and education providers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participating teachers will be certificated, trained in the curriculum by and a consultant curriculum developer, and bilingual as needed Parent teachers will be recruited from Adult Education and bilingual as needed
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reformat, translate and print 2,000 copies of Helping Your Child Get Ready for School in English and Spanish 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parent workshops at both schools and through Project EARLY will focus one or more meetings on the activities described in this parent guide 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parent workshop leaders will either by certificated preschool or Kindergarten teachers or parent educators from local family resource centers
3-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support efforts to develop a district wide articulated preschool curriculum 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Once established by the committee, the curriculum will be provided to all interested local early care and education providers in a workshop format 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The facilitator and members of the committee will be local early care and education providers with experience in developing and implementing preschool curricula

Napa Children and Families Commission
The Napa County Early Learning Initiative

Elements by Age	Shearer and McPherson Communities	Napa County	Training Component	Staff Training Qualifications
Parenting/Family Support Services				
0-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand the Kindergarten transition program to include a parent component for up to 100 families • Provide six evening workshops for 60 families of preschoolers at both school sites • Coordinate with four local events to distribute information and support early registration for Kindergarten and school readiness activities for 100 or more families 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See item #1 under Early Care and Education on the previous page • Training for parents will reinforce the early learning experiences for children at Shearer and McPherson preschools • Staff at Nuestra Esperanza will be provided with support from school staff on early registration information and school readiness kits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See item #1 under Early Care and Education on the previous page • Provided by bilingual, certificated preschool or Kindergarten teachers • Nuestra Esperanza staff are bilingual and experienced with Napa County
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a web-based Guide to Napa County Family Support Services and Training • Provide Spanish language translators for selected parent trainings on early learning activities for at least 80 families 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commission support staff will provide training on website access as needed by families or agencies • Parent workshops are focused on parent support of success in early learning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided by Commission support staff with web development experience • Translators will be hired from local family support centers, school districts, or members of the Napa County Hispanic Network

Napa Children and Families Commission
The Napa County Early Learning Initiative

Health and Social Services	Shearer and McPherson Communities	Napa County	Training Component	Staff Training Qualifications
0-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand hours of community liaisons for outreach activities focused on identifying 100+ families with 0-5 year olds not associated with early learning and education providers 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community liaisons are well trained in the Healthy Start family resource program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liaisons are all bilingual and very knowledgeable about health resources and the local needs of Hispanic families
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide a free, one-hour consultations on child development and basic health screening for 192 children 0-5 and their families 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents will be provided with informal training and resource materials regarding child development and health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nurse consultant is bilingual and very knowledgeable about child development, health and nutrition, and the local needs of Hispanic families
Schools' Readiness for Children				
3-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pilot a campaign to increase early enrollment by an additional 150 children (dsitricwide) Develop a Spring evening activities program for 40 or more families 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Early enrollment information will be blended with messages about how families can support early learning success Agenda-based training for this evening has already been established and field tested 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Early enrollment media will be developed by school district staff and reviewed by task force members Developed by certificated and bilingual Kindergarten teachers

Napa Children and Families Commission
The Napa County Early Learning Initiative

Infrastructure and Administration	Shearer and McPherson Communities	Napa County	Training Component	Staff Training Qualifications
0-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supervision of Bilingual Community Liaisons in outreach activities 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bilingual liaisons provide information, training and support to parents about how to access community resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provided by Healthy Start Coordinator and school nurses at Shearer and McPherson
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a countywide Early Learning Task Force Develop and maintain a management information system Mini-grants to facilitate the development and support of eight parent leaders Facilitate collaborative activities needed to grow the initiative into a countywide collaborative 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Task force members will be provided with training on the local and statewide initiative Training will be provided to the task force and other interested parties on the data elements of the information system Training to parent leaders on board participation will be provided as needed Training and information will be provided to the task force on sources of additional funding for collaborative, countywide school readiness activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinated by Commission staff who are experienced in developing and maintaining community networks Commission support staff have experience in developing and maintaining relational databases Resource centers are experienced in supporting the development of local parent leaders The Project EARLY director will have experience in coordinating training and outreach activities

School Readiness Program (or System) Budget

Program (or System):

Funding Organization	(1) FY 02-03	(2) FY 03-04	(3) FY 04-05	(4) FY 05-06
A. County Commission	\$77,396	\$125,000	\$125,000	\$125,000
B. Funding Partners*:		\$25,000	\$50,000	\$50,000
Total Local Funding				
C. State Commission Funding**	\$125,000*	\$125,000	\$125,000	\$125,000
Total All School Readiness Funding	\$202,396	\$275,000	\$300,000	\$300,000

1. For Fiscal Year (FY) 2001-02, the local match requirement is 1:2 (\$.50 local match for every \$1.00 of State CCFC funds)
2. For Fiscal Year (FY) 2002-03 and beyond, the local match requirement is 1:1 (\$1.00 local match for every \$1.00 of State CCFC funds).

* Year 1 funding from the Napa and State Commissions is viewed as seed money that will facilitate the growth of a countywide effort. As previously stated, it is assumed that Napa Commission funding (through the local grant process) will increase in subsequent years as interest in the initiative grows. All funding from potential partners (e.g., school districts, parent resource centers) beyond the first fiscal year depend on: (1) the success of the Year 1 initiative; (2) the scope of the Year 2, countywide program design; (3) success of the Task Force in securing additional funds and commitments from partners; and (4) approval by respective districts, agencies and organizations. Napa Unified School District is providing approximately \$13,000 of in-kind contributions (e.g., supervision, participation on planning teams, use of classrooms or other school space for workshops) for the first year.

** This amount includes the \$25,000 per year implementation funding allocation. The Commission has already received \$50,000 of its implementation funding. Therefore, the request for new 'match' funding from the Commission for FY 02-04 is \$100,000 per year.

Estimated Number of Children and Families to be Served

	FY 02-03	FY 03-04*	FY 04-05	FY 05-06
Estimated number of children to be served:	602	750	850	950
Estimated number of families to be served:	552	700	800	900

* Increased estimates in Years 2-4 are based on additional involvement by other districts in countywide initiative activities.

**School Readiness Program/System Budget
STATE CCFC FUNDS**

Name of School Readiness Program/System (select one): **The Napa County School Readiness Initiative**
 Control # (State CCFC use): _____

Description	Fiscal Year 02-03	Fiscal Year 03-04	Fiscal Year 04-05	Fiscal Year 05-06
* Early Care and Education	\$128,396	\$95,000	\$100,000	\$100,000
* Parenting/Family Support Services	\$15,600	\$50,000	\$60,000	\$60,000
* Health and Social Services	\$14,300	\$50,000	\$60,000	\$60,000
* Schools' Readiness for Children	\$7,500	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000
* School Readiness Program Infrastructure and Administration	\$36,600	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000
TOTALS	\$202,396	\$275,000	\$300,000	\$300,000

**SCHOOL READINESS PROGRAM DIRECTORY INFORMATION
(SCHOOL READINESS PROGRAM PROFILE)**

<p>County Commission: Napa Address: #5 Financial Plaza, Napa, CA 94558 Phone: (707) 257-1410 FAX: 257-1417</p>	<p>Contact: Sally Sheehan-Brown Title: Executive Director School Readiness Program: <i>Napa County Early Learning Initiative</i> Street: : #5 Financial Plaza City/Zip: Napa, CA 94558 Phone: : (707) 257-1410 FAX: 257-1417 E-Mail: napakids@napanet.net</p>
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

School District/School	Enrollment	Grades
Shearer Charter Elementary School	756	K-6
McPherson Elementary School	706	K-6

Community Characteristics	<p>The two elementary schools identified by the API as high priority are Shearer Charter and McPherson. Principals at both schools have identified an extensive support system for school-aged children and families. The primary focus of the school readiness initiative will be <i>how can we best use the initiative to support and expand the capacity of these school-based centers to include children 0-5 and their families?</i> Additionally, in Napa County there are several district and countywide efforts to promote early success in school, school readiness and the value of early learning. These efforts will provide over \$400,000 in funding over the next 18 months. However, since these efforts are in the very early stages of development, collaboration and coordination activities have not yet occurred. This provides an additional window of opportunity for a countywide initiative.</p>
Services and Programs (5 Essential and Coordinated Elements)	<p>The goals of our Year 1 activities are to: (1) expand the current activities at both high priority schools; and (2) initiate a countywide collaborative to coordinate and support activities that promote early learning success at all 25 elementary schools in Napa County. Within the community areas of our two high priority schools, we intend to: expand an early learning success program; expand the hours of bilingual community liaisons for outreach activities; support efforts to develop an articulated preschool curriculum; provide six evening workshops for parents of preschoolers; pilot an early Kindergarten registration campaign; and coordinate with four existing community events to provide needed support for early Kindergarten registration and take-home information on early learning activities. In order to grow a countywide initiative, we intend to fund: administrative support for the development of a countywide Early Learning Task Force; development and maintenance of a management information system; a reprint of <i>Helping Your Child Get Ready for School</i>; development of a web-based <i>Guide to Napa County Family Support Services and Training</i>; establishment of a free consultation service for families of children 0-5 on developmental and early learning; collaborative activities needed to grow the initiative into a countywide network of school readiness activities within four years; Spanish language translators for selected parent trainings; and, mini-grants for family resource centers to facilitate the development and support of parent leaders serving on the countywide Task Force.</p>
Collaborative Partners	<p>Napa Valley Unified School District, Napa County Office of Education, COPE Family Resource Center, Nuestra Esperanza, Napa County Health and Human Services, Napa CARES Initiative, Napa Valley College, Matrix Family Resource Center, Calistoga Family Resource Center, Calistoga Unified School District, St. Helena Unified School District, Napa County Migrant Education, Napa Solano Head Start, Napa County Child Care Planning Council, Community Resources for Children</p>

School Readiness Programs Request for Funding (RFF) Technical Assistance Survey

County: Napa	Contact: Sally Sheehan-Brown
Agency Name: <i>Napa County Children and Families Commission</i>	Telephone: (707) 257-1410

What questions do your County Commission or collaborative partners have about the School Readiness Programs?

Once the statewide evaluation contract is let, we would like to know what elements we should incorporate into our management information system.

What assistance do you need?

We could use assistance in the development of a viable countywide initiative (e.g., Task Force development).

What assistance can you provide to others?

Please include in your application or FAX to:
California Children and Families Commission
(916) 323-0069 Attn: Richard Iniguez
or email to riniguez@ccfc.ca.gov

**Appendix:
Letters of Support**