

Newsletter: July 2021



FIRST 5 MARIN

Learn. Grow. Thrive.

Spotlight: Free Summer Learning Backpacks for Preschoolers!



First 5 Marin has teamed up with the **Marin County Free Library** to provide "Summer Learning Backpacks" to young children-- filled with crayons and coloring books, pencil, sharpener and paper, scissors and construction paper and a glue stick, a white board and eraser, and a 4-pack of playdough all in a drawstring bag + three bilingual books and a backpack.

The backpacks are being distributed at libraries around Marin County:

- **Wednesday, July 21** at **Mesa Park in Bolinas (10 am)**
- **Friday, July 23rd** at the **Civic Center Lagoon Park in San Rafael (10:30 to noon)**
- **Tuesday, July 27** at the **Corte Madera Library (11 am)**
- **Thursday, July 29** at the **Novato Library (10:30 am)**
- **Saturday, July 31** at **Rocky Graham Park in Marin City (Noon - 2 pm)**

Thanks to the First 5 Marin Commissioners who approved \$20,000 to purchase all the school supplies-- and special thanks to the library for contributing the books and the big backpack!

First 5 Marin's next Commission meeting: Wednesday, September 15th at 5:30 pm; we will be meeting in

person for the first time in a year and a half! Meet our newest commissioner, Dr. Jessica Hollman, a pediatrician with Marin Community Clinics.



Free PPE!

Community Partners!
First 5 Marin has received a VERY large shipment of gloves, spray disinfectant and CHILD-SIZED masks. We would love to share these with your organization. Best news-- **they are FREE!**
Please email Michelle@First5Marin.org or call 415-257-8555.

DESKTOP: What We're Reading

Take a look at some of the recent articles about important issues related to children and families:



The Washington Post: Biden has chance to reverse 50 years of failure on child-care policy New strategy offers prospect of overcoming conservatives' warnings about families. (Danziger Halperin, 7/16/21)

The New York Times: How to Raise Kids Who Won't Be Racist

If race is largely a social construct, then teaching children about it will only perpetuate racism — right? Wrong: Studies show precisely the opposite. (Moyer, 7/15/21)

Ms. Magazine: Protect Mothers and They Will Stimulate the Economy: A Case for Federal Paid Family Leave

The U.S. has the ability to improve maternal well-being and decrease infant mortality rates if it implemented federal paid family leave. (Hernandez, 7/15/21)

The New York Times: Plans for free pre-K and community college could provide a ‘ladder into the middle class.’

For at least a decade, many experts and advocates have called for expanding the public education system to level the playing field for students from “cradle to career.” (Green and Ngo, 7/16/21)

NBC: Covid vaccines for kids under 12 expected midwinter, FDA official says

After emergency use authorization, the agency hopes to move quickly to full approval. (Edwards, 7/15/21)

AND LEARN ABOUT THE CHILD TAX CREDIT:

CNET: Child tax credit: Who counts, how much and what else to know before July 15

Will your family get up to \$300 per month for each kid this year? We'll explain payment schedule, amounts, eligibility and more. (Conner, 6/14/21)

CNBC: How to maximize your child tax credit payment for your kid's future

Receiving the child tax credit? Put it to good use by opening these savings accounts for your kid. (Gravier, 6/15/21)

CNET: Child tax credit: Parents with babies born in 2021 can get up to \$3,600

Do you have a baby on the way this year? You might be in for a pleasant surprise -- at least financially. (Langlo, 7/19/21)

AND DON'T MISS THIS!

Podcast: PBS Newshour: Raising the Future: What history can teach us

about child care in the U.S.

To understand where things stand today, we decided to explore the history behind America's modern-day child care system. Why doesn't it meet the needs of parents, caregivers or children? (7/16/21)

Podcast: KQED: Next Steps for a Childcare System in Crisis

In this hour, we examine the long-term access and affordability problems in early childhood care and how it affects the state's persistent achievement gap. We'll also hear about a state plan to phase in universal transitional kindergarten. (Madrigal, 7/19/21)

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**Save the Date:
First 5 Marin's Policy Breakfast
Friday, December 3rd, 2021**