FIRST 5 ALAMEDA COUNTY

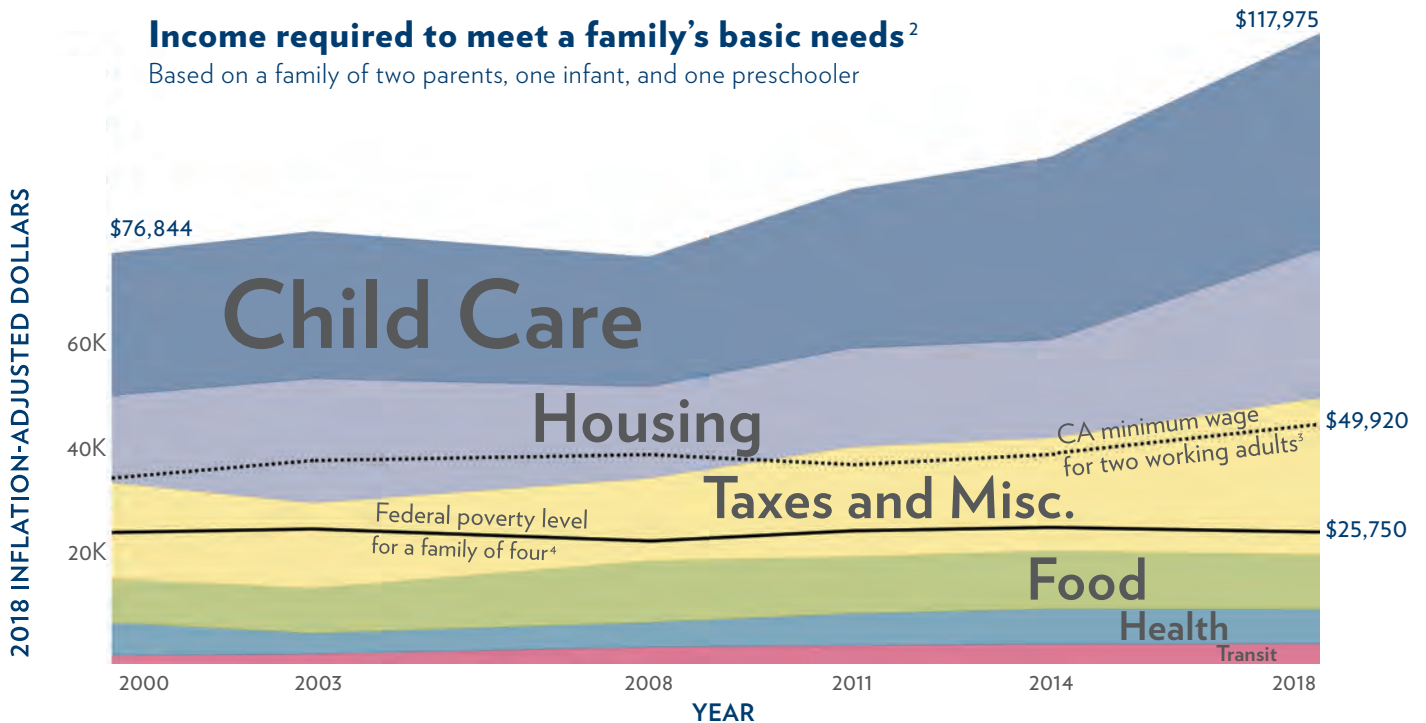# THE FINANCIAL REALITY FOR ALAMEDA COUNTY FAMILIES

Families are in economic distress and struggling to meet basic needs.

Children who are healthy, food secure, and well-rested have significantly higher levels of academic achievement.[1] By addressing families' basic needs, we can help young children develop to their full potential and succeed later in school and career.

Income required to meet a family's basic needs [2]
Based on a family of two parents, one infant, and one preschooler

$117,975

$76,844

2018 INFLATION-ADJUSTED DOLLARS

Child Care

Housing

Taxes and Misc.

CA minimum wage for two working adults[3] $49,920

Federal poverty level for a family of four[4]

$25,750

Food

Health

Transit

60K

40K

20K

YEAR

2000   2003   2008   2011   2014   2018

Population of Alameda County: 1,629,615   **Population of 0-5 in Alameda County: 116,890**

- More than **3,070** families in Alameda County live at or below the poverty level.[5]

- **13%** of children under 5 years live below poverty level.[6]

- Households by race that fall below the Self-Sufficiency Standard: [2]
  - African American–**53%**   • Asian/Pacific Islander–**28%**
  - Latinx–**51%**   • Native American–**29%**   • White–**20%**

CHILD CARE COST IS AN INCREASING BURDEN ON FAMILIES[2]
Full-time cost for one infant

2000
$12,000
(Inflation adjusted to 2018)

2018
$21,888

+82%
increase in child care cost 2000-2018

UC Berkeley Tuition[7]
2019–20
$14,254

Child care cost has risen far above the cost of state university tuition.
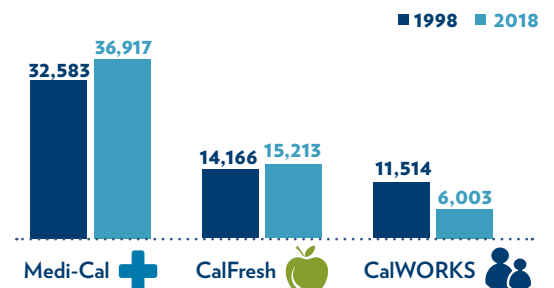
CHILDREN EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS[8]

2013–2014
3,477

2016–2017
4,574

+32%
increase in child homelessness in only three years

NUMBER OF CHILDREN 0-6 RECEIVING PUBLIC BENEFITS[9]

■ 1998   ■ 2018

	1998	2018
Medi-Cal	32,583	36,917
CalFresh	14,166	15,213
CalWORKS	11,514	6,003

First 5 takes an equity-driven approach to improve the lives of children and their families through place-based efforts, partnerships, and community-driven programming. Our work in District 1 includes:

Corresponding map on next page.

● Help Me Grow (HMG)

Our HMG program helps families and providers detect early signs of developmental, social-emotional, and learning concerns before a child enters school. HMG helps families navigate complex systems to receive the necessary supports they need. Between 2014 to 2018 in District 1, more than **600 calls and referrals** were made to the HMG phone line.

▲ Library Partnerships

We partner with library systems throughout the county to develop story times with play groups that promote kindergarten readiness in underserved communities. In addition, we supply partner libraries with Learning Adventure Backpacks that can be checked out by families throughout the year. Backpacks contain books and materials, in English and Spanish, that build kindergarten readiness skills in four domains: literacy, math, science, and social skills.

◆ Kindergarten Readiness Assessment

The Kindergarten Readiness Assessment provides a detailed portrait of the social, emotional, and academic skills possessed by incoming kindergarten students across Alameda County. We have funded Applied Survey Research to administer the assessments since 2008, as well as produce a longitudinal study of kindergarten readiness correlated to third grade achievement. Of the nearly **490 students** that were assessed for kindergarten readiness in the schools in your district in 2017, **55% were "fully ready."** The county average was 44% of children ready for kindergarten.

① First 5 Alameda County FY 18-19 Grantee in District 1

Alameda County Library ($31,000)

Funding to provide Quality Counts resources for family, friend, and neighbor caregivers by leveraging Alameda County Library's current story times.

Total District 1 Population: 341,666[10]

District 1
21,837
children under 5 years

1.3%
of the total Alameda County population

6.4%
of the total District 1 population

Families in poverty in District 1[5]

3%
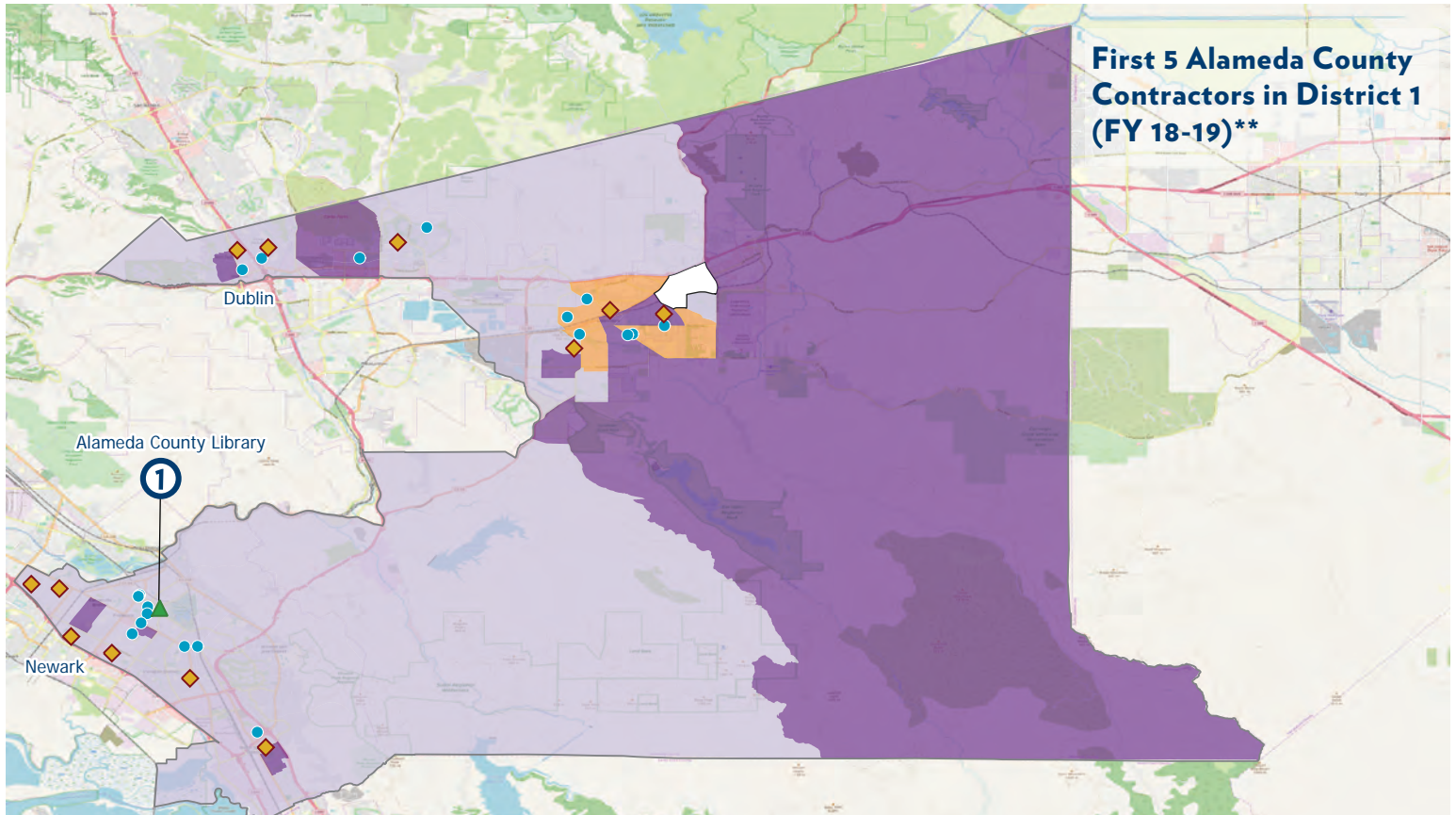of families with children under age 5 living below the poverty level

281
families with children under age 5 living below the poverty level

2016 Strong Start Index Score*

- Above County Average
- Below State Average
- Below County Average
- No Data Available

Legend

- Help Me Grow provider (2013-2019)
- Library partner
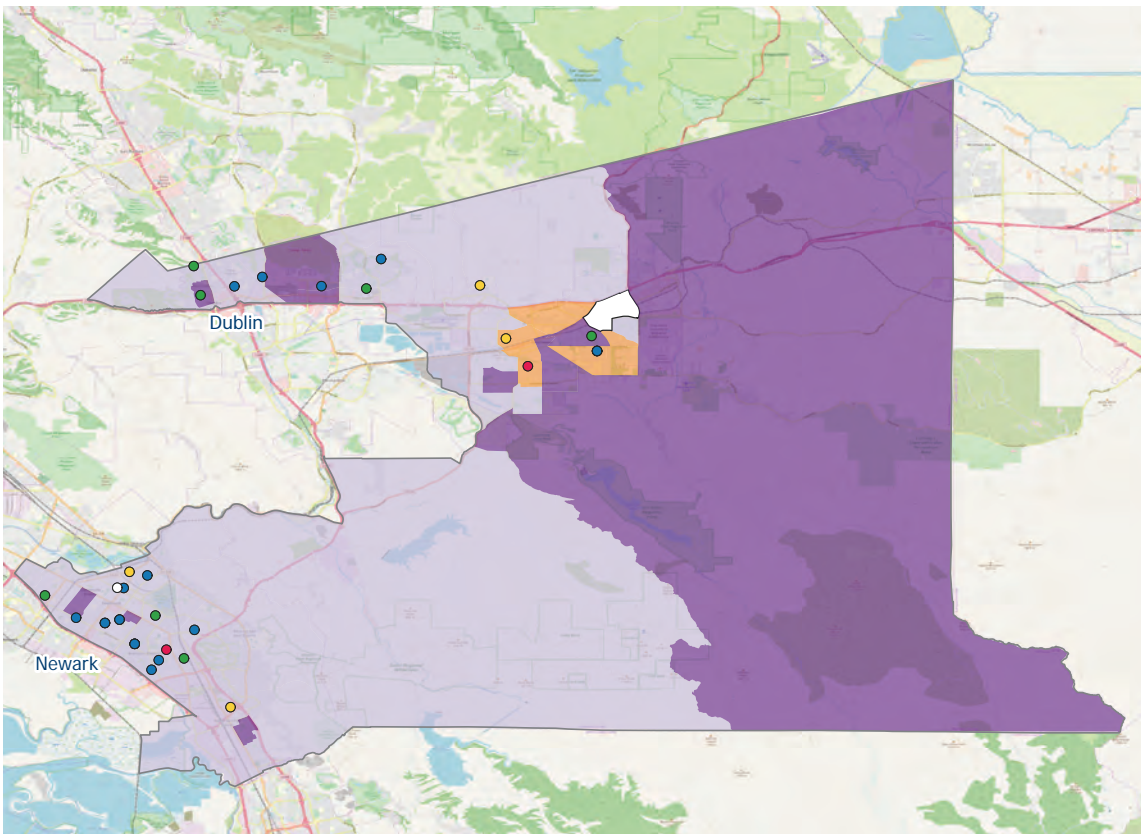- Participating 2017 Kindergarten Readiness Assessment school

First 5 Alameda County Contractors in District 1 (FY 18-19)**

Dublin

Alameda County Library ①

Newark

*The California Strong Start Index is a measure of the resources available to a child at birth, defined as 12 indicators across four domains: family, health, service, and financial. Individual "Strong Start scores" are calculated by counting the number of indicators, or assets, present on a birth record (0-12). The greater the number of assets, the stronger the score. The average Strong Start score across all 2016 birth records in California is 8.8 out of 12. The average Strong Start score across all 2016 birth records in Alameda County is slightly higher at 9.4 out of 12. For more information, visit www.strongstartindex.org.

** NOTE: Many contractors provide services across neighborhoods, cities, and district boundaries. Billing addresses have been used for mapping purposes

We invest in quality early care and education to build the capacity of providers and child care sites through rating, coaching, and professional development to improve the quality of early childhood education programs. Sites are rated through our Quality Counts program and those ratings can be accessed by families.

District 1 child care sites participating in First 5's Quality Counts program.

33 total sites

7 family child care

26 center-based care

1,264 total children served

Legend

2016 Strong Start Index Score

- Above County Average
- Below County Average
- Below State Average
- No Data Available

FY 2018-2019 Quality Counts rating (5 = highest quality)

- Rating: 5
- Rating: 4
- Rating: 3
- Rating: 1 or 2
- No Rating

*This information includes Step 2 and Step 3 sites, some of which have not received a rating; Center-Based Care and Family Child Care Sites that are, or will be rated; sites that closed or dropped from Quality Counts at some point during the report year; and sites that dropped prior to the reporting year, but whose rating is still valid.

1. Ickovics, J. R., Carroll-Scott, A., Peters, S. M., Schwartz, M., Gilstad-Hayden, K., & McCaslin, C. (2014). Health and Academic Achievement: Cumulative Effects of Health Assets on Standardized Test Scores Among Urban Youth in the United States. Journal of School Health, 84(1), 40-48. doi: 10.1111/josh.12117. Federal poverty level is based on a family of four. California minimum wage shown is for two working adults.

2. Insight Center. Family Needs Calculator (formerly the Self-Sufficiency Standard). Retrieved from https://insightcced.org/2018-family-needs-calculator/

3. Department of Industrial Relations. Minimum Wage (income of two full-time working adults at California minimum wage, as of January 1, 2019). Retrieved from https://www.dir.ca.gov/dlse/FAQ_MinimumWage.htm

4. US Department of Health & Human Services. US Federal Poverty Guidelines Used to Determine Financial Eligibility for Certain Federal Programs. Retrieved from https://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty-guidelines

5. U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table S1702 ("Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months of Families")

6. United States Census Bureau. 2016 American Community Survey 1-year Estimates. Retrieved from https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/technical-documentation/table-and-geography-changes/2016/1-year.html

7. University of California, Berkeley. Cost of Attendance. Retrieved from https://financialaid.berkeley.edu/cost-attendance

8. Report to Alameda County Office of Education on McKinney-Vento Needs by HTA.

9. Alameda County Social Services Agency

10. United States Census Bureau. 2013–2017 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates. Retrieved from https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/technical-documentation/table-and-geography-changes/2017/5-year.html. 322,388 estimate of population for whom poverty status is determined.