



## **PRESS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release  
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### **PAJARO VALLEY PREVENTION AND STUDENT ASSISTANCE (PVPSA) RECEIVES \$1 MILLION GRANT FROM FIRST 5 MONTEREY COUNTY**

**Watsonville, CA** – First 5 Monterey County awarded Pajaro Valley Prevention and Student Assistance (PVPSA) a little over \$1 million to fund their Pajaro Saludable/Healthy Pajaro Collaborative Project. The four year project is in partnership between PVPSA and the Pajaro Valley Unified School District (PVUSD) and will serve children and families in the Pajaro and Los Lomas areas of North Monterey County.

This collaboration will focus on providing culturally responsive and integrated services for children ages 0-5 and their families. Services will be available in schools, as well as in community-based locations including Monterey County's Porter Building located on Bishop Street in Pajaro.

The project will provide children and their families' access to behavioral health services offered by PVPSA and playgroup services offered by PVUSD. In addition, parents will receive parental education workshops offered by Positive Discipline Community Resources. These services are critical to this region of Monterey County as they are often the only services available to families residing in this area.

PVPSA's mission is to improve the quality of life of the students and families of the Pajaro Valley by providing health education, counseling and prevention services, and by advocating for public policies that protect the health of our community. 6,820 children are served by PVPSA annually, with over 525 parents and caregivers receiving parental education and support.

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