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February 21, 2012

Re: Abriendo Puertas

To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the Abriendo Puertas Parent Education program.

The Abriendo Puertas program has been a key family support partner of First 5 San Francisco in preparing young Latino children and their families for success in school and beyond. Abriendo Puertas has assisted our department to successfully implement this parent education curriculum within a specific language and cultural framework in San Francisco. This type of parent education plays an essential role in providing support services to our county's neediest children and families.

First 5 San Francisco provides funding through its Preschool for All initiative to community-based nonprofit organizations and public education institutions to enhance the quality of services provided to children and their families. In addition, we have successfully partnered with Abriendo Puertas, to train family advocates and "promotoras" at Family Resource Centers. This innovative curriculum develops parents as educators in their home language while supporting cultural values and traditions.

Abriendo Puertas is now recognized—locally and nationally—as a curriculum that supports parent education and leadership. This curriculum is conducted as a series of mini-trainings and supports cultural identity, and acknowledges a parent's language as a strength. First 5 San Francisco is committed to continue this fruitful partnership with Abriendo Puertas.

On behalf of First 5 San Francisco, I highly recommend this curriculum, and without reservation, are fortunate to have Abriendo Puertas as our partners in our universal preschool initiative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ingrid X. Mezquita".

Ingrid X. Mezquita
Senior Program Officer
Preschool for All Initiative