

# Monthly Meeting Highlights



Children & Families  
Commission of Orange County

**APRIL 2010**

*The Children & Families Commission of Orange County's regular monthly meeting was held on Wednesday, April 7, 2010. The following is a summary of the Commission actions*

## **One-Time Catalytic Investments Continue to Provide On-Going Benefit**

Commission members were presented with a comprehensive overview of the current "Service Payback Agreements" that a number of community based organizations have with the Commission. The Agreements provide one-time funding for organizations in exchange for the provision of services to families and children in Orange County. Services such as; pediatric dental care, emergency and transitional shelter for homeless families, early developmental screenings to identify developmental disabilities and health and wellness education and activities are covered under the Agreements. These Service Payback Agreements enable numerous community-based organizations to provide vital – and otherwise difficult to access – services to thousands of children and their families.

## **Commission Continues Successful Partnership with the American Academy of Pediatrics**

Commission members approved the extension of an ongoing partnership with the Orange County Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP). The partnership enables the AAP to engage in a number of activities focused on improving the health outcomes and literacy levels of children in Orange County. The AAP supports programs such as: the Commission's Reach Out and Read early literacy program which uses pediatricians' offices to encourage early reading for toddlers, young children and their parents; School Readiness Nurse program targeted at parents and health care providers for the purposes of preventing injuries to young children and families; and support of pediatricians throughout the county to assist in providing comprehensive services to young children and providing injury and violence prevention information. The partnership between the Commission and the AAP has resulted in positive health and wellness outcomes for the youngest members of our community.

## **Commission Approves Financial and Business Plans for 2010/2011 Fiscal Year**

The annual budget hearing proposed an overall reduction in program funding from over \$50 million to a target amount of \$38 million for the next fiscal year. Although the Commission has a long-term financial plan to adjust spending to the rate of decline in tobacco tax revenue, several factors increased the rate of decline including the Federal tobacco tax and the elimination of First 5 California School Readiness Program funds. The Commission reviewed the Strategic Plan, Business Plan and Annual Operating Budget for fiscal year 2010/2011 in order to ensure the long-term sustainability of Proposition 10 funds in Orange County for consistency with its long-term financial plan.

*For more information, please visit the Commission website at [www.occhildrenandfamilies.com](http://www.occhildrenandfamilies.com)*