



Help Orange County Children
Grow Up Great

The Children and Families Commission of Orange County
2005 - 2006 SUMMARY ANNUAL REPORT





The Decisive Years

The Children and Families Commission of Orange County supports organizations that provide health, education and child development services to children and their families, prenatal to age five. Our goal is to support services that allow all children to grow up great – healthy – strong – and learning.

We receive funds from the 1998 Proposition 10 tobacco tax initiative. In 2006, the Commission spent \$41.7 million to fund Orange County service organizations.

What Can We Do in One Year?

- Serve over 138,000 children and 95,000 family members
- Screen 28,000 children for developmental delays
- Assist with health insurance applications for more than 11,000 children
- Supply almost 39,000 home visits to families from caregivers
- Support 23,000 pediatric health encounters and well-child checkups
- Screen more than 10,000 children for dental health
- Provide over 21,000 pregnant women, mothers and young children with a night's sleep in a bed at a shelter

Every child needs quality nutrition, medical care and immunizations to properly develop during the first five years of life. Every child also needs stimulation – the early seeds needed to implant a lifelong love of learning.

Tackling Challenges, Meeting Needs

Being a parent is hard work and can be more difficult when a family encounters health, economic or social barriers. To address these barriers and improve the overall well being of children and families, the Commission supports a broad range of programs to:

- Provide safe and secure homes to alleviate homelessness and overcrowding.
- Address language and cultural barriers that may undermine the confidence of parents.
- Improve access to health care programs.
- Increase the number of children immunized by age two.
- Establish regular dental care for children.
- Decrease the percentage of children born with a low birth weight.
- Increase young children's physical fitness and nutritious eating habits.

ORANGE COUNTY – THE SECOND MOST POPULATED COUNTY IN CALIFORNIA – HAS MORE THAN 260,000 CHILDREN FROM NEWBORNS TO AGE FIVE. CALIFORNIA'S FUTURE DEPENDS ON HOW WELL THESE CHILDREN DEVELOP TODAY.



The Commission's Four Program Areas

Healthy Children

- Our Bridges for Newborns program aims to increase healthcare coverage, well baby checkups and up to date immunizations.
- We link hospitals, neighborhood-based Family Resource Centers, and home visitation programs into a comprehensive system so that newborns and their families are linked to appropriate health and family support services.
- Health and safety programs cover a range of services from distributing car seats to supporting injury prevention efforts.
- Our School Nurse program places qualified nurses at each elementary school district to conduct health and developmental screenings, referrals and follow-ups.
- We support programs that have provided pediatric dental treatment and education to thousands of Orange County children.

THROUGH A COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY EFFORT, AN IMMUNIZATION REGISTRY WAS SUCCESSFULLY LAUNCHED AT 13 CLINICS TO INCREASE IMMUNIZATION RATES. IN JUST ONE YEAR, 72,000 RECORDS WERE INPUT INTO THE REGISTRY.

AFTER RECEIVING SERVICES, 98% OF CHILDREN WERE ENROLLED IN HEALTH INSURANCE AND 92% OF CHILDREN HAD RECEIVED AGE-APPROPRIATE IMMUNIZATIONS.

Strong Families

- The Readiness on the Road pilot program, in cooperation with the Boys and Girls Club, prepares children for school.
- The expansion of shelters and family housing provides safe and stable homes for children and their families.
- Home visits by the Assessment and Coordination Team of public health nurses provides support for pregnant women with histories of substance abuse.
- Partnerships with public television and print media provide valuable child development information to support parents and caregivers.

COUNSELING OR EDUCATIONAL SERVICES WE PROVIDED HELPED 95% OF THE FAMILIES WHOSE CHILDREN HAD POTENTIAL BEHAVIORAL PROBLEMS.

76% OF THE FAMILIES WHO RECEIVED OUR PARENTING EDUCATION CONTINUED TO USE THE PARENTING SKILLS THEY WERE TAUGHT.

Ready to Learn

- The Early Literacy Initiative supports the expansion of literacy and language development including the Reach Out and Read program with pediatricians prescribing books to their young patients during well child visits.
- Twilight Schools meet the diverse needs of families – helping them by equipping parents for success.
- LEAPS (Learning, Early Intervention, and Parent Support) provides universal access to developmental screening and support for parents of special-needs children.
- Our school readiness program funds coordinators in 25 elementary school districts in the county to coordinate health and developmental services to ensure that children arrive at school ready to learn.

84% OF PRESCHOOL AGE CHILDREN SHOWED MAJOR OR MODERATE IMPROVEMENT AS A RESULT OF PARTICIPATION IN AN EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION PROGRAM.

67% OF CHILDREN WHO RECEIVED REFERRALS FOR DEVELOPMENTAL DELAYS WERE TAKEN TO THE SPECIALIST.

CHILDREN PARTICIPATING IN A SCHOOL READINESS PROGRAM SHOWED A SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT IN THEIR DEVELOPMENTAL PROFILE FROM THE BEGINNING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR TO THE END.

Capacity Building

- Our capacity building focus enables us to leverage resources, coordinate and streamline services, and prioritize those areas where there is an ongoing or new need among Orange County's youngest children.
- Capacity Building grants allow organizations to increase their capacity to help children through new or expanded services.
- We monitor results, measure outcomes and meet program goals resulting in efficiently deployed resources to serve young children and their families.

THE COMMISSION'S CAPACITY BUILDING GRANTS HELPED 21 LOCAL AGENCIES STRENGTHEN THEIR BUSINESS PRACTICES WHILE SERVING 107 CHILDREN AND 353 FAMILY MEMBERS WITH SERVICES RANGING FROM SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES LIVING WITH AUTISM TO OUTREACH TO NON-LICENSED CHILD CARE PROVIDERS TO CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.

OVER 75 VISTA/AMERICORPS MEMBERS SERVED 120,000 HOURS THIS YEAR. VISTA VOLUNTEERS RAISED \$1,059,022 FOR SERVICE PROVIDERS THROUGH GRANT WRITING AND FUND RAISING ACTIVITIES, AND AMERICORPS VOLUNTEERS MADE OVER 800 HOME VISITS, COORDINATED 25 COMMUNITY EVENTS, AND ENTERED OVER 1,000 IMMUNIZATION RECORDS.

FIVE PROGRAM-SPECIFIC EVALUATIONS WERE COMPLETED INCLUDING BRIDGES FOR NEWBORNS, SCHOOL LINK, KID BUILDERS, AND SCHOOL READINESS AND SCHOOL READINESS NURSE INITIATIVES.

What Can I Do?

Successful partnerships with Orange County leaders can expand our reach and extend our progress. The children we serve are your employees, neighbors, coworkers and leaders of tomorrow. Join us. Help us make California's future as golden as its past.



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Program Funding Expenditures FY 2005 – 2006

PROGRAM CATEGORY	EXPENDITURES	NUMBERS SERVED	
		CHILDREN	FAMILY MEMBERS
Healthy Children			
Pediatric Health Services	10,364,434	21,581	15,441
Bridges for Newborns	4,217,794	29,594	29,476
Project Connections/Home Visitations	2,663,020	3,740	3,831
School Nursing	1,857,932	11,381	3,566
Program Grants & Support	1,823,429	8,956	4,261
Health & Safety	1,337,501	1,129	2,636
Children's Dental	1,000,750	2,612	2,961
Health Access	426,520	1,727	1,951
Community Clinics	416,279	1,518	588
Fitness/Nutrition	95,625	47	47
Total	24,203,283	82,285	64,758
Ready to Learn			
School Readiness	7,999,829	10,116	14,323
Program Grants & Support	2,429,428	4,840	5,102
Special Needs Program	478,996	512	1,097
Early Literacy	144,919	38,102	6,964
Total	11,053,172	53,570	27,486
Strong Families			
Program Grants & Support	1,879,610	1,640	1,837
Homeless Prevention	963,034	57	90
Boys & Girls Club Projects	42,529	n/a	n/a
Total	2,885,173	1,697	1,927
Capacity Building			
Performance Outcomes Measuring Systems	1,456,233	n/a	n/a
AmeriCorps/VISTA	1,429,138	730	632
Program Grants & Support	475,208	107	353
Technical Assistance	166,394	n/a	n/a
New Program Research & Development	73,782	n/a	n/a
Total	3,600,754	837	985
Grand Total	41,742,381.51	138,389	95,156

n/a denotes new programs that will report data in the next year, or services that support programs.

In Fiscal Year 2005-2006, the Commission committed over \$41.7 million in state and local funds to accomplish the broad goals of developing healthy children with strong families, who are ready to learn, while continuing to build service capacity.

58%
Healthy Children

26%
Ready to Learn

9%
Capacity Building

7%
Strong Families