

Quarterly Performance Report

Focus Area: Capacity Building

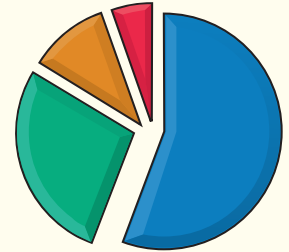
September 2008



Children & Families
Commission of Orange County

Budget by Goal Area (\$45.3 million in program spending)

- 56% Healthy Children
- 29% Ready to Learn
- 10% Capacity Building
- 5% Strong Families



Orange County Fast Facts

- 41,905 total births (2005 Data)
- 262,229 children ages 0 – 5 (2000 Census)
- 100,753 children ages 0 – 5 directly touched by services – 38% of children 0 – 5
- 128 Commission-funded programs
- 117 organizations providing services

Capacity Building Fast Facts

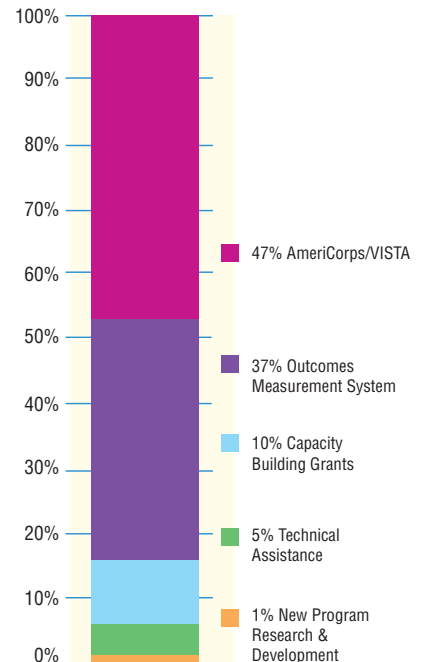
- Readers and volunteers had 52,251 encounters with children through Reach Out and Read
- 1,304 volunteers were recruited by AmeriCorps and AmeriCorps VISTA members to participate in activities at school readiness sites, family resource centers, and other Commission-funded children's health and development venues
- 6,941 families of two-to-four year olds received home-based literacy services provided by AmeriCorps members
- 20,000 Kid Builder child and parent activity books were distributed
- 13 technical assistance and training workshops were held for Commission-funded organizations

Focus Area: Capacity Building – \$4,412,064

Capacity building programs are primarily support programs that promote effective delivery systems for child and family services. Through this focus area we are able to leverage our resources with other national and state programs, coordinate and streamline work efforts, and prioritize those areas where there is an ongoing or new need among Orange County's youngest children. In 2006-07 the programs supported by AmeriCorps/VISTA members served 664 children ages 0 - 5 and 657 family members, along with 147 organizations that provide services to young children and their families. The Capacity Building Grants program served an additional 26 children, 34 family members and over 1,500 service providers.

Program	Expenditures
AmeriCorps/VISTA	2,072,836
Outcomes Measurement System	1,634,922
Capacity Building Grants	447,579
Technical Assistance	211,708
New Program Research & Development	45,019
	\$ 4,412,064

Capacity Building Program Expenditures



Capacity Building Program Summary

National Children's Study

Achievement of the goals and objectives set forth in the Commission's Strategic Plan requires partnerships at the state, national, and community level. A significant research partnership endorsed by the Commission is the National Children's Study. The results of this study will help us to better understand and respond to the health and development needs of Orange County's children.

The National Children's Study will examine the effects of environmental influences on the health and development of more than 100,000 children across the United States, following them from before birth until age 21. The intent of the study is to pinpoint the causes of childhood diseases and disorders such as autism, asthma, obesity and other childhood health and safety hazards. Orange County was selected as a Vanguard site for early study planning and implementation.

Locally, the Orange County Vanguard Center for the National Children's Study is moving forward on multiple fronts. In 2006-07, significant work was accomplished through participation on national study teams, to prepare the protocol for this longitudinal study. A local community engagement team made up of the four study partners – University of California, Irvine; Children and Families Commission of Orange County; Children's Hospital of Orange County; and County of Orange Health Care Agency – outlined a plan for outreach to elected officials, community-based organizations, and opinion leaders in each of the 15 study neighborhoods as well as to hospitals and health professionals in Orange County. The goal is to create awareness of the study, gain local support, and learn the distinctive qualities that make each community unique. In support of community outreach efforts, the Commission funded a community Outreach Coordinator position for the Orange County Vanguard Center (who was ultimately selected and began work in January 2008).

In Orange County, the National Children's Study is scheduled to begin working directly with residents (door-to-door) in fall/winter of 2008, with the first women anticipated to be enrolled in the study in spring/summer of 2009 and the first births in fall 2009.

Additionally, the Commission funded the Maternal Outreach Management Systems (MOMS) and the University of California, Irvine to conduct a related demonstration outreach and enrollment project. One of the goals of this study was to inform future National Children's Study outreach efforts. This demonstration project engaged very low income, monolingual, Spanish-speaking women, who were in their first six to eight weeks of pregnancy. Several significant findings were identified including information about opportunities and barriers to recruiting and retaining families in a research study effort, incentives, transportation, and more.

For further information on this study please see www.nationalchildrensstudy.gov.

www.occhildrenandfamilies.com