

Monthly Meeting Highlights



Children & Families
Commission of Orange County

MARCH 2007

COMMUNITY HEALTH ACCESS PROGRAM EXTENDED TO 2009

Over \$3.7 million was approved to fund the two-year continuation of the successful Family Resource Health Access Program. Since 2000 the Commission has funded Project Connections, the Family Resource Center based health access initiative. The program includes teams of public health community nurses, health care coordinators and community health workers at eight Family Resource Centers to provide accessible, culturally sensitive services that improve the overall health and well-being of the children. Over the next two-years the health access teams will strengthen linkages with the School Readiness programs at each elementary school district and support the services provided to children living in motels. The teams successfully provided the following services during the last year:

- 12,362 Referrals were made to community resources
- 8,571 Home visits were conducted
- 1,677 Children 0-5 were insured
- 1,647 Children 0-5 were linked to a medical home
- 1,424 Children 0-5 were immunized

ANGELS BASEBALL PARTNERSHIP TO PROMOTE COMMISSION MESSAGES

The Commission approved a partnership with Angels Baseball LP for the 2007 season to build an interactive children's exhibit at the stadium with a potential outreach to 2.7 million total game attendees. The Discovery Science Center will design and build the exhibit's obstacle course and include Kid Builder activities to engage children in positive health, education and fitness messages. The partnership also includes a public awareness campaign on topics such as literacy and health with Angels Baseball players as spokespeople in both print and television ads.

FUNDING FOR TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PROJECT APPROVED

As part of the partnership with HomeAid Orange County, \$1.3 million was approved to support the construction of the Hope Family Housing project in Buena Park. The Orange County Rescue Mission will operate the 16-unit transitional housing project providing shelter and services to homeless families for up to two-years at affordable costs.

OTHER COMMISSION ACTIONS

- The *Orange County Special Needs Demonstration Project – LEAPS* (Learning, Early Intervention, and Parent Support Program) received continued support to provide screening services and support to children with special needs and their families at the Pomona Elementary School campus in Costa Mesa.
- Coordination with local school districts for *Spring Health Events and an Immunization Public Awareness Campaign* was approved to ensure underserved children are current with their immunizations, immunizations are entered into Immunization Network, and families recognize the importance of a medical home and preventative care.
- A Public Hearing to receive the *California Children and Families Commission Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2005-06* was held.

For more information, please visit the Commission website at www.occhildrenandfamilies.com