

# Monthly Meeting Highlights



Children & Families  
Commission of Orange County

## JULY 2011

*The Children & Families Commission of Orange County's regular monthly meeting was held on Wednesday, July 6, 2011. The following is a summary of the Commission actions.*

### **New STEM Initiative Planned for OC**

The Children and Families Commission will help launch an Orange County STEM Funders Collaborative that will support Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) teaching and learning in Orange County. The new funders collaborative will be comprised of organizations that are committed to improving STEM education for all Orange County students, and will also include early education strategies, which are an emerging priority. The OC STEM Initiative will provide program management, strategic communications, assessment of best practices, fund development and annual reviews of the initiative. The initial partners are the Samueli and Broadcom Foundations, and other foundations will be invited to support this effort. OneOC is the designated fiscal agent for the new initiative.

### **Funding Renewed for Motel Outreach Program**

The Children and Families Commission's Homeless Prevention strategies include sponsoring outreach and case management services to families living in motels. This service is performed by several different organizations including but not limited to the Orange County Rescue Mission, Illumination Foundation, and Visiting Nurse Association (VNA) Foundation. In addition, the Commission has funded a school nurse position at Magnolia School District in Anaheim to serve these families with children. Based upon a review of the program, and expanded scope of services has been developed that requires both a trained public health nurse and social work services to meet the needs of families living in motels. The Commission will partner with the County of Orange Health Care Agency and the Magnolia School District to improve the linkage to the school district and community services. This new structure will provide a far more effective service delivery model.

### **Sandra Barry Selected as Commission Chair for Coming Year**

At the July meeting, the Children and Families Commission of Orange County conducted the annual election of officers. Sandra Barry was elected Commission Chair. A recognized expert in educational issues, Ms. Barry's experience includes serving as Superintendent of the Anaheim City School District. Kimberly Cripe, an expert in children's health and President and CEO of Children's Hospital of Orange County (CHOC) was elected Commission Vice-Chair for 2011/12.

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