

# Monthly Meeting Highlights



Children & Families  
Commission of Orange County

## December 2011

*The Children & Families Commission of Orange County's regular monthly meeting was held on Wednesday, December 7, 2011. The following is a summary of the Commission actions.*

### **Court Rejects AB 99 Upholds, Proposition 10 Safeguards**

The Commissioners met in Closed Session for an update from legal counsel on the successful outcome of the lawsuit that challenged the legality of AB 99. AB 99 was approved by the Legislature to divert \$1 billion statewide of Proposition 10 funds for state programs. Commission Chair Sandra Barry reported in open session that the lawsuit resulted in the entire invalidation of AB 99. She congratulated the counsel team on their excellent representation to successfully retain funding for purposes directed by the voters of California. The state Attorney General has up to 60 days to appeal once a final judgment is entered, and Commission Counsel was authorized to vigorously represent the Commission to protect local funding that supports organizations that provide health and early education services to young children and families.

### **Commission Approves Budget Assumptions for 12/13 and 13/14 Budgets**

Due to the one-time budget reductions implemented due to AB 99, the annual budget planning process began in October instead of January. An initial Strategic Planning Workshop began in November and was continued to the December meeting with the presentation of four budget reduction options for the next two fiscal year budgets. The Commission approved the option to develop an initial baseline for potential budget reductions to targeted programs focused at \$250,000 or more that will be phased over two-years. This option also relies on realizing budget reductions from catalytic investments implemented over the next two years. A budget plan will be presented at the January 2012 meeting.

### **Community Clinics, Homeless Prevention, and Health Needs Assessments Actions**

Other Commission actions included a progress report on the Community Clinic catalytic investment effort that was previously approved this year. The funds will be used to support sustainability of the community clinic network and primary care services, and support local efforts such as achieving Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) status. Set-aside funds that were approved in October were allocated to the Southern California Alcohol and Drug Programs, Inc./Heritage House II for homeless prevention programs. And a progress report on the review of community indicator and needs assessment projects that are sponsored or supported by the Commission and the Orange County Health Care Agency. The final recommendations on this item will be presented to the Commission in February 2012.

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