

# Monthly Meeting Highlights



Children & Families  
Commission of Orange County

**NOVEMBER 2010**

*The Children & Families Commission of Orange County's regular monthly meeting was held on Wednesday, November 3, 2010. The following is a summary of the Commission actions.*

## **Commission Responds to Governor's Veto of CalWORKS Stage 3 Child Care**

The Commission approved expanding an existing agreement with Children's Home Society to add \$50,000 to immediately implement a transition plan for the 607 Orange County children that are under 5-years of age and that are potentially impacted by Governor Schwarzenegger's veto of CalWORKS Stage 3 Child Care services. Children's Home Society will coordinate with programs such as Orange County Head Start, State Preschool, school districts, and child care providers to transition children that may not have child care after November 5, 2010. An additional \$350,000 was approved to fund direct services for children and families that may need additional time to identify and transition into alternative care. Additional services to be provided will include developmental and health screenings, linkages to safety net services, and early learning activities.

## **Orange County Community Health Research Center Federal Grant Award**

The National Institutes of Health awarded a \$567,628 grant to fund the successful proposal developed by the Commission in partnership with the University of California, Irvine (UCI) and other community partners. The intent of the grant is to assist in developing sustainable relationships between academic health centers and community entities in the pursuit of improved public health through research. The Commission approved an agreement with UCI to receive the Federal Grant Award for the project that will create a central clearinghouse for health research for Orange County, increase capacity among community agencies and health researchers, and facilitate dialogue between community partners and the academic health center.

## **10 People Making a Difference in the Lives of Young Children Campaign Nurse Natalie Gerdes**

Newport-Mesa Unified School District Nurse Natalie Gerdes was recognized as one of 10 people making a difference in the lives of young children as part of a campaign commemorating the 10 year anniversary of the Children and Families Commission of Orange County. Nurse Natalie represented the countywide School Nurse program that serves families in the community by providing comprehensive developmental and health screening to identify delays or issues that could impact a child's success in school. The program also provides assistance with health insurance enrollment and immunizations. Other honorees recognized over the 10-month campaign represent programs for autism, children's dental, early literacy, homeless prevention, Boys & Girls Clubs, and pre and post-natal health.

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