

FY 2015/16 Annual Report Summary

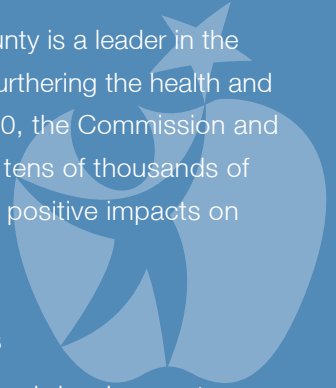
# Healthy Children Ready to Learn



Children & Families Commission of Orange County

# Vision: All Children are Healthy and Ready to Learn

The Children and Families Commission of Orange County is a leader in the development of programs, policy and best practices furthering the health and well-being of children from birth to age five. Since 2000, the Commission and its community partners have transformed the lives of tens of thousands of children by funding community-based programs with positive impacts on children's health and school readiness.



## Improving Outcomes While Funding Declines

To maintain focus on the importance of early childhood development beyond the expected decline of tobacco tax revenue, the Commission is employing innovative strategies ranging from engaging more funding agencies and grant makers to supporting shared measurement systems. This year, the Commission:



Partnered with CalOptima to increase federal funding in Orange County for programs targeting prenatal care, healthy birth outcomes and child mental health.



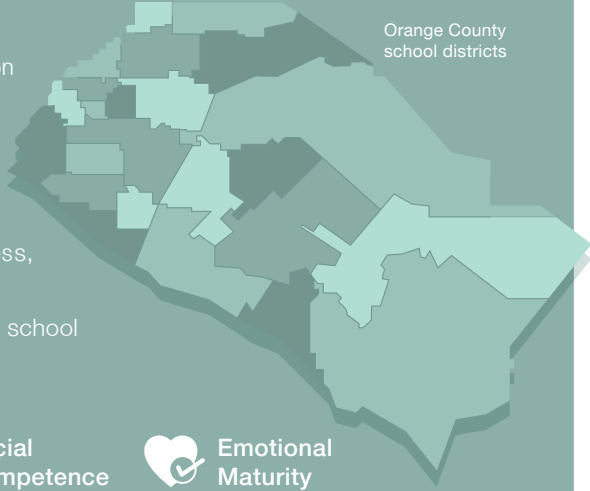
Universally implemented a kindergarten readiness assessment allowing communities to identify areas of vulnerability for their young children and better prepare the next generation of learners.



Garnered the attention of two new national partners to explore alternative financing models to support programs that improve the lives of young children in Orange County.

# Learners Today, Leaders Tomorrow

Working collaboratively with all Orange County school districts, the Commission completed a community-wide school readiness assessment using a tool known as the Early Development Index (EDI). The EDI is a validated population measure of school readiness, that includes five developmental areas that are known to affect well-being and school performance:



Orange County school districts



Physical Health & Well-Being



Social Competence



Emotional Maturity



General Knowledge & Communication Skills



Language & Cognitive Development

Fiscal Year 2015-16 marks the first time the Commission has comprehensive data for every Orange County elementary school that serves kindergarteners. The school readiness data confirmed that:

Orange County children are most ready in Physical Health & Well-Being and Emotional Maturity

**81%**  
on track

Orange County children are least ready in Language & Cognitive Development

**33%**  
not on track

In 13 Orange County cities, there is a higher-than-average concentration of young learners who are not on track in multiple areas of development

**13** OC Cities  
not on track

This school readiness data provides a roadmap for targeted intervention and support. Working with valued community partners, the Commission will lead collective action to meet the developmental needs of young children, strengthen the coordination and alignment of existing services, and build a framework for understanding child development and the importance of investing in young children.

# Healthy Children

Commission funded programs encompass prenatal care, health and developmental screenings, linkage to services, and early intervention services when needed to maximize each child's potential.

## Program Highlight: Healthy Smiles for Kids of Orange County

Healthy Smiles for Kids of Orange County is a pediatric dental clinic with a mission to improve the oral health of children in Orange County through collaborative programs directed at prevention, outreach and education, and access to treatment.

In the area of prevention, Healthy Smiles services have increased in fiscal year 2015/16 in every area:

### Sealants

**44%**

Increase to 16,515 sealants applied

### Fluoride Applications

**63%**

Increase to 12,929 children treated

### Dental Screenings

**66%**

Increase to 14,434 children screened

### Outreach

**103%**

Increase to 29,682 children receiving oral health education and prevention information

Through Healthy Children Programs in fiscal year 2015/16:



**63,557** children received a screening for behavior and/or developmental milestones, vision, hearing, body composition and stature, or health status

**24,330** Kits for New Parents were distributed

**19,423** children received a dental screening

**14,213** children received dental services, including preventative, restorative and emergency treatment



**14,383** mothers received breastfeeding education, intervention and support

**10,472** parents received referrals to services and education for their children's health and developmental concerns

Parents had **18,257** office visits to improve knowledge of healthy child development

**15,008** children were screened for up-to-date immunizations

# Early Learning

Early learning skills lay the foundation for children's success in school. To help Orange County's children enter kindergarten on the best possible trajectory for success in school and life, the Commission invests in school readiness, math and early literacy programs.

## Program Highlight: Early Learning Specialists

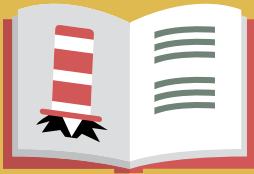
Since 2000, the Commission has partnered with 24 school districts in Orange County to fund Early Learning Specialist positions. They provide early care and education opportunities to meet childhood development needs and connect families with community resources. Operated in conjunction with the Early Learning Specialists, 20 school districts have Learning Link sites that provide an accessible and interactive creative learning environment for young children and their parents.



**13,204** parents participated in a program designed to increase the frequency of reading at home

**82%** of parents taught their children letters, numbers, or words, at least three times in the prior week at the end of services, compared to 68% at the beginning of services

Through Early Learning Programs in fiscal year 2015/16:



**170,552** new and used books were distributed to children by healthcare providers

**45,076** children participated in early literacy programs

**22,140** parents received tools, resources, information and training to transition their children to kindergarten

**1,677** volunteers were recruited to support early literacy programs



**1,099** children participated in early science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) programs

**3,391** children and 3,862 parents participated in a family-focused, drop-in early learning program (for example, a Learning Link)

**1,497** early educators received assessment, coaching, and in-class training to enhance the quality of early learning programs

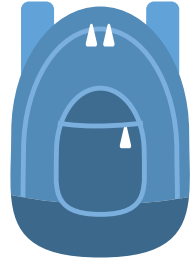
# Strong Families

The Commission invests in programs that provide families in need with a safe and stable home environment, information on child development, and developmental screenings. This support includes funding for transitional and emergency shelters, and direct services with an emphasis on basic needs such as food, shelter and clothing.

## Program Highlight: Homeless Prevention



2014-2015

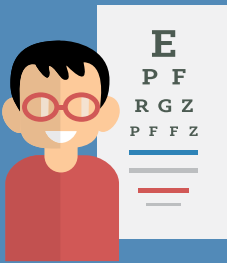


2015-2016

The number of children who were unstably housed or at risk of homelessness was reduced by more than **30%**.

The number of children three years or older receiving services in a shelter and attending school regularly increased by nearly **80%**.

## Through Strong Families Programs in fiscal year 2015/16:



**1,686** at-risk children received screenings for vision, hearing, height, weight, health and developmental milestones

**7,279** children received health education classes

Children received **36,584** emergency or transitional shelter bed nights and their family members received **59,058** bed nights



**21,022** home or office visits were conducted with parents of at-risk children to improve their knowledge of healthy child development

**6,883** parents participated in parenting education classes on healthy child development

# Capacity Building

The Commission relies on the nonprofit community to strengthen the network of service providers, offers federal leveraging opportunities, awards small competitive grants focused on enhancing the capacity of an agency, provides technical assistance to achieve long-term sustainability, and integrates a performance evaluation process for all Commission-funded programs.

## Sustaining Commission Priorities Through Collective Impact

In fiscal year 2015/16, the Commission launched a new effort to build capacity in Orange County. The partnerships are designed to support local nonprofit organizations to improve the collective impact on health and developmental outcomes for children ages 0-5.

### Four initiatives inline with Commission priorities were selected:

- **Early Childhood Mental Health** – identify the current landscape of services, assess challenges facing providers and develop a system-level model
- **Developmental Screening** – increase coordination among providers, ensure all Orange County children receive developmental and behavioral screenings
- **Santa Ana Early Learning** – develop baseline of early learning, health and financial well-being for Santa Ana families, utilizing Early Development Index data
- **Family Homeless Prevention** – identify available resources and families in need of support services

The Capacity Building program helps these cohorts promote collective action, use shared measurements, develop common agendas, expand proven interventions and minimize duplicative efforts.

### Commission-funded agencies were able to raise additional dollars to maximize sustainability efforts:

**\$8.8 million**  
raised from program fees/revenue

**\$3.1 million**  
First 5 California matching dollars

**\$1.6 million**  
raised from individual donations

**\$3.9 million**  
raised from Foundation donations

**\$101 million**  
raised from government funds/grants

**\$4.2 million**  
received from in-kind contributions

**\$1.7 million**  
received by leveraging Commission dollars

# Program Funding Expenditures – Fiscal Year 2015/16

58%

Healthy Children

25%

Early Learning

12%

Strong Families

5%

Capacity Building

In fiscal year 2015/16, children ages 0-5 received more than 2 million services, while their family members received more than 1 million services.

	PROGRAM EXPENDITURES	CATALYTIC EXPENDITURES
<b>Healthy Children</b>		
Bridges Maternal Child Health Network	\$ 5,427,292	\$ –
Pediatric Health Services	3,487,685	1,147,241
School Readiness Nursing	2,990,612	–
Community Clinics	790,125	–
Community Health	344,638	558,755
Childrens' Dental	–	2,221,372
Healthy Children Program Support	260,856	–
	\$13,301,208	\$3,927,368
<b>Early Learning</b>		
Early Learning Specialists	\$ 2,977,910	\$ –
School District/ Community Based Early Learning Programs	1,457,997	750,000
First 5 CA Early Learning Programs	2,195,181	–
Early Learning Program Support	110,509	–
	\$ 6,741,597	\$ 750,000
<b>Strong Families</b>		
Homeless Prevention	1,499,459	1,138,500
Family Support Services	487,282	190,833
Strong Families Program Support	57,580	–
	\$ 2,044,321	\$1,329,333
<b>Capacity Building</b>		
Performance Outcomes Measuring Systems and Evaluation Support	\$ 916,979	–
AmeriCorps	855,172	–
Capacity Building Program Management, Grants and Fund Development	322,268	242,231
Technical Assistance	35,986	–
	\$ 2,130,405	\$ 242,231
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$24,217,531</b>	<b>\$6,248,932</b>

Note: Catalytic expenditures are one-time funding actions designed to reduce ongoing demand on the Commission's budget, while making system-wide impacts on services for young children.

Cover photograph courtesy of the Center for Autism & Neurodevelopmental Disorders, a Commission-funded organization.



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