

Orange County Children’s Partnership Strategic Planning Meeting, May 19, 2016

The Orange County Children’s Partnership held an off-site planning session to discuss the Partnership’s priorities for the next several years, and to identify strategies to accomplish those priorities.

The first item discussed was the approach to addressing priorities. The group quickly came to a consensus that the best use of Partnership members’ time and resources was a “slingshot” approach wherein the Partnership/members will use its unique abilities to expand and enhance existing initiatives in the county. Participants agreed on the following criteria for an initiative to be considered:

- Ability for integration of services
- Ability for collaboration to occur
- Maximizes existing resources and expertise
- Initiatives must be aligned with OCCP’s mission
- Must not be reliant on a separate, substantial effort by OCCP or its members
- Capitalizes on the OCCP’s ability to address road blocks and/or advance or promote the initiative

After agreeing upon the Slingshot approach, the Partnership discussed potential areas of specific focus. Seven topic areas were discussed. After this discussion, it was agreed that the OCCP would include all of these areas of focus, albeit at different levels of intensity/involvement.

Additionally, the group discussed what was meant by OCCP implementing “accountability” for the projects it sets as a priority. The group discussed the need to set goals by focus area; to track progress (maybe through data collection? Through the conditions of children?); and to engage stakeholders (learning from the WE CAN coalition’s approach).

Following is a summary of the potential role that OCCP might play to enhance/expand the initiative; proposed level of OCCP engagement; and next steps.

Food Security

Proposed OCCP Role:

- Encourage members or their community partners to ask food security screening questions and refer to resources (pantries, apply for CalFresh)
- Get community to donate to pantries
- Engage schools to donate to pantries
- Ensure there is a connection of families in program to CalFresh enrollment
- Tracking of families accessing food? Program evaluation?

Level of OCCP Engagement:

- Report to OCCP on a monthly basis, starting immediately

Next Steps:

1. OCCP members requested a one-page handout they could use within their organizations and with community partners. They would like the handout to include:
 - Need

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- Questions
 - Referral/resources
 - Donate here
2. Dr. Handler/team to make presentations to OCCP organizations
 3. Consider a training component on available resources and referrals/where to send families that indicate a need.
 - Make sure to involve 2-1-1

Child Abuse/Neglect

Proposed OCCP Role:

- Leverage OCCP connections
- OCCP could be the "super structure" for WE CAN coalition
- Identify priority areas, and build upon what the various WE CAN task forces are already doing, expanding into system level changes
- For example, one of the task forces is working on gathering data that will identify "hot spots" for child abuse/neglect in the county. That task force could bring their findings to the OCCP, which could then apply its resources to help address the issues
- Promote education and understanding of best practices

Level of OCCP Engagement:

- As appropriate, each of the nine WE CAN task forces report to OCCP
- Reporting would occur monthly, starting immediately
- Each month, a different task force could report to the OCCP (or a task force may come multiple times as their initiative is developed and seeking OCCP involvement)

Next Steps:

1. Members of the OCCP requested WE CAN to develop and bring to the OCCP a Strategic Plan and Budget

Also: Dr. Handler offered to provide \$50,000 for the WE CAN effort, if the OCCP members could jointly provide a \$50,000 match. After discussion, it was evident that due to the way county budgets work, agencies couldn't meet Dr. Handler's request on an agency-by-agency basis. Several of the non-County members indicated their budgets were already decided for the year. It was suggested that to pursue a matching funding idea would require the support of the Board of Supervisors, and Supervisor Do could be approached with this idea if there was agreement.

AB 403 (in planning stage)

Proposed OCCP Role:

- Help rebrand Orangewood as it transitions to a 10-day Shelter facility
- Recruitment of foster homes

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- Support providers on the prevention side – so that kids don't come to Orangewood in the first place
- Help problem solve issues

Level of OCCP Engagement:

- Report to OCCP monthly

Next Steps:

1. This initiative needs to organize before coming to OCCP. It was recommended that the SSA/Probation implementation team be expanded to include other entities (especially FFAs, Regional Center, the DA and schools). That group can then make recommendations to the OCCP for expansion/enhancement of their efforts. The implementation team (CWSIP) meets monthly as follows:

Child Welfare System Improvement Partnership
Occurs the 1st Thursday of the month
8:30 to 10:00
Orangewood Children's Foundation
1575 E. 17th Street, Santa Ana, CA 92705

Early Childhood Development

Proposed OCCP Role:

- A place for accountability – there are many good organizations, providing good services but they have all been very siloed in the past. With the 20+ organizations now meeting jointly, the OCCP could provide a place for collaboration, integration and accountability
- OC Alliance for Children & Families will bring recommendations for how OCCP can assist with implementation of early childhood development efforts

Level of OCCP Engagement:

- Report to OCCP monthly, but not likely to begin until September or later

Next Steps:

1. Revisit this initiative in September because next steps are dependent on the governor's budget.

Mental Health for Adolescents

Proposed OCCP Role:

- OC Alliance for Children & Families will bring recommendations for how OCCP can assist with implementation/expansion of mental health efforts
- Promote 11-year old screenings

Level of OCCP Engagement:

- Report to OCCP monthly

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Next Steps:

1. OC Alliance for Children & Families will pull together a group related to mental health – to sling shot to the OCP
2. Considerations: CHOC mental health initiative has mapped resources, make sure to include; also include Board of Sups ad hoc committee

Childhood Obesity

Proposed OCCP Role:

- At present, information gathering as to possible sling-shot opportunities

Level of OCCP Engagement:

- Presentations to OCCP

Next Steps:

1. Invite presenters to bring OCCP up to speed on childhood obesity prevention efforts already underway in OC. Possible organizations to present: 2 physician groups (Dr. Riba, Dr. Lucas Taylor – prevention/community-wide efforts); OC Healthier Together; CHOC- for training; Schools/OCDE; OC United Way

CSEC Youth

Proposed OCCP Role:

- Bring topic to OCCP for regular check in/recommendations for how OCCP can expand/enhance efforts