

2005 DEPARTMENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Auditor-Controller

- Auditor-Controller received an award for Achieving Excellence in Financial Reporting for the County's CAFR for FY ended June 30, 2004 that was presented to Auditor-Controller by the State Controller's office at the Annual Conference in October.
- The A/C-Public Finance Accounting unit worked closely with the CEO to complete the refinancing of the County's bankruptcy debt, reducing the debt payment schedule by 10 years.

Child Support Services

- In 2005, Child Support Services increased per case collections to \$1,813 million from \$1,743 (4%) and increased distributed net collections to a record \$178.3 million (3.6%).
- Child Support Services increased the percent of cases with a support order established to 80.5% (2%) and increased percent of current support collected to 53.5% (2.5%).

Clerk-Recorder

- South County Branch Office Opening - The Clerk-Recorder Department formalized an agreement for a new branch office in South Orange County, located at the Laguna Hills Civic Center. The new office will provide most department services, including real estate document recording, providing copies of birth, death and marriage records, accepting passport applications, issuing marriage licenses as well as conducting marriage ceremonies. We anticipate being open to the public by March 2006.
- Online Birth, Death and Marriage Records Application and Appointment System - For the public's added convenience, the Department introduced an online application and appointment system to obtain copies of birth, death and marriage certificates. Orange County is the first county in the state to implement such a system. The average time for our customers to obtain their copies in the Hall of Records is now less than five minutes.
- Orange County Archives Presentations for the Board of Supervisors - Under the direction of the Clerk-Recorder, the Orange County Archivist made ten presentations highlighting the rich history of Orange County. The presentations delved into a myriad of topics, including the history of the Orange County Civic

Center, the birth of numerous Orange County cities, the 100th birth date of the Orange County Register and the 50th anniversary of the opening of Disneyland.

County Executive Office

- The County Executive Office coordinated the refinance of the County's bankruptcy-related bonded indebtedness to reduce payoff date by ten years to 2016, saving taxpayers more than \$400 million.
- Reduced pension bill from OCERS through collaboration with OCERS (\$45 million reduction).
- Saved \$60 million during course of year 00-05 through careful management by all departments.
- CEO provided workshops and budget briefings to assist the Board in making necessary decisions to update the five-year Strategic Financial Plan and adopt the FY 2005-06 County Budget.
- The County received bond ratings among the highest of California counties.
- CEO conducted two sessions of the Leadership Academy, in conjunction with Dr. Mark Maier of Chapman University, to develop current and future County managers.
- Legislative Affairs completed a very active and successful legislative program in Sacramento and Washington, D.C.
- Successfully managed critical personnel changes in support of Board programs and goals.

Dana Point Harbor Department

- The Dana Point Harbor Department (DPHD) was established as a separate County department.
- Dana Point Harbor Revitalization Plan and the accompanying Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) 591 is on the Board of Supervisor's agenda for approval and certification on January 31, 2006. This project has been in the works since Supervisor Wilson created the Dana Point Harbor Task Force in 1997. Dana Point Harbor is a regional asset providing many recreational and boating opportunities to hundreds of thousands annually. The aging facilities needed repairs in 1997, and now with the guidance of the new Department, the DPH plan is moving forward. Once the plan is approved and EIR certified by the Board of Supervisors, the DPHD will be in good position to complete the application to the Coastal Commission (which includes an LCP amendment from the City of Dana Point). The project will be ready to proceed once the Coastal Commission hands down their approval.

District Attorney

- **Successful convictions on high profile cases** - The Office was able to successfully obtain convictions on several high profile cases -- including the death penalty conviction on Alejandro Avila who kidnapped, sexually assaulted, and murdered 5-year-old Samantha Runnion; the sexual assault convictions of the three teens (Haidl, Nachreiner and Spann) of an underage unconscious girl; the conviction of a multi-million dollar embezzler of public funds Jeffrey Hambarian; and convictions in the Unity Outpatient Clinic, the largest known medical insurance fraud case in the country.
- **Cracking down on Gangs** – The Orange County District Attorney’s Office (OCDA) released a report on gangs covering the accomplishments of the Gang and TARGET units of the OCDA over the past year along with a 10-year comparison and analysis of gang activity in the County. The study found a reduction of gang members by 6,000 members since 1999. The Gang and Target Units obtained a conviction rate of over 90 percent.
- **Prosecuting medical insurance fraud** - The OCDA obtained three convictions in the Unity medical insurance fraud case – the largest prosecution of its kind in the country. These defendants were flying thousands of healthy people from all over the country and performing unnecessary operations. They billed over \$96 million and collected \$15 million in bogus medical claims. Five others are still awaiting trial on this on-going case.
- **Protecting the environment and precious natural resources** - The OCDA set precedent when the Office sued several oil companies including ARCO, Thrifty, and Shell, to protect the County’s precious drinking water supply. Multi-million dollar settlements were reached with ARCO in 2002 and Thrifty in 2003. Finally, last year the OCDA settled a lawsuit with Shell. The settlements require the oil companies to spend an unlimited amount of money to clean up contamination at gas stations throughout Orange County. As a result of these settlements, in May 2005, the OCDA returned \$2 million in taxpayer money to the County.
- **Bringing justice in unsolved cases** - The OCDA’s TrackRS (Taskforce Review Aimed at Catching Killers, Rapists, and Sex Offenders) Unit provided investigative and coordinating efforts to local Law Enforcement agencies resulting in successfully solving crimes and apprehending suspects. One example is Louis Wiechecki, who was recently charged with the 1974 murder of 27 -year-old nurse Linda Cummings in her Santa Ana apartment.
- **Serving the community** - The OCDA recently launched a new website. The intent of the website was to create a “one-stop shop” for resources and information on public safety in Orange County. The website features the “OCDA’s 10 Most Wanted” fugitives. Also on this site, the public may find the applicable law on many subjects, highlights of notable cases, resources that could help them, answers to

many frequently asked questions, and phone numbers in the Office to contact. The public will also find a number of child safety resources including an Amber Alert notification and a Child ID kit to keep identifying information of your child. There are also outreach brochures and public service announcements. The public may view a list of "Cases in the News" and sign up for an E-Notifier to directly receive information about the Office.

- **Community recognition** - The Orange County District Attorney's Office was recognized as Law Firm of the Year by the Constitutional Rights Foundation. Fourteen deputy district attorneys were honored by Mothers Against Drunk Drivers (MADD) for their outstanding efforts in protecting the public from drunk drivers.

Health Care Agency

- A significant first step was taken in the effort to expand health care coverage for Orange County's children. The Health Care Agency produced a report on the status of uninsured children in Orange County and has helped to facilitate the local Children's Health Initiative. In support of these efforts, the Board of Supervisors has approved a plan that will increase outreach efforts targeting the estimated 19,000 Orange County children who are eligible for Medi-Cal or Healthy Families but are not currently enrolled, as well as increase retention of those children who are already enrolled.
- The Health Care Agency has completed development of its first three-year plan for Proposition 63, the Mental Health Services Act. Over 4,000 people were involved in the planning process, providing an unprecedented opportunity for the public to help shape programs and services targeted at unmet needs. The Mental Health Services Act will bring over \$25 million dollars per year into our county to provide essential mental health services to our children and youth, adults and older adults, providing hope of a brighter future for individuals and families affected by mental illness.
- HCA continued its preparedness efforts for the possibility of a bioterrorism event or public health emergency by training public health nurses and other staff in disease investigation, purchasing equipment to help hospitals increase their surge capacity for treating sick or injured patients, strengthening emergency response plans and exercising the Agency's capability to distribute vaccines or medications to large populations, and by hosting the successful "Disaster Ready" Conference to enhance the ability of our county and community partners to meet the public's needs in the event of a disaster.
- HCA Environmental Health was recognized for two innovative efforts: A new Traditional Foods Project, called "Fresh is Best," brought together civic leaders, local restaurant owners and community leaders to increase awareness of food safety in our Vietnamese community. This successful program preserves and protects the traditional foods of the Vietnamese community and increases assurance of food safety for the consumer. The Dana Point Harbor "Clean and

Green” Campaign helped to reduce oil spills in the harbor and preserved water quality, receiving an Award of Merit from the California Association of Counties.

- The Health Care Agency is one of the Orange County partners participating in the National Children’s Study. This 25-year, federally funded study of up to 100,000 children is the largest and most comprehensive study of children’s health ever conducted. It will allow researchers to follow mothers and their children from before birth until age 21. Study scientists will examine family genetic factors, as well as environmental factors associated with neighborhoods and schools, chemical exposures, water and air quality, diet, and social and behavioral environments. The goal is to better understand how to prevent, diagnose and treat diseases in all children.

Housing and Community Services

- Over \$6,000,000 received in claims by Orange County Veterans made through the Veterans Service Office.
- 77,486 trips to non-emergency medical appointments for older adults who were unable to access other modes of transportation provided through the Senior Non-Emergency Medical Transportation Program.
- Funded approximately 125,000 trips to congregate meal sites.
- Funded the provision of 1.7 million meals to more than 25,000 older adult.
- Coordinated the 2005 Continuum of Care grant application on behalf of the entire county, resulting in an award of \$10,374,475 in homeless assistance funding for Orange County.
- At the request of the Chairman conducted the 2005 county employees food drive, resulting in the collection of 10 tons of food to provide 41,502 meals.
- Took the lead role in coordinating public and private efforts to provide immediate and long-term housing and supportive service relief to over 1,000 Katrina/Rita evacuees.
- The first time ever Point in Time count of the homeless occurred on the evening of January 26 and the early morning of January 27, 2005. Over 150 public and private volunteers helped to complete the census.
- Saw the opening of four new, county-financed affordable housing developments consisting of 414 units.
- Received a grant for \$1,000,000 to create a skilled workforce and a pipeline of qualified workers to fill the high growth biotechnology and biotech healthcare occupations.

- Received a grant for \$800,000 to alleviate the severe nursing shortage in Orange County by increasing the number of LVNs trained to be RNs.
- Administered over 60 contracts that resulted in public works projects, public service projects, and the rehabilitation of 356 housing units.

Human Resources

- Human Resources implemented a new online recruiting system, Neo-Gov, within planned timeframes. This system received a Customer Innovation Award for the system rollout.
- Established the new Health and Wellness Commission.
- Implemented the new Benefits Center Web Site with two new web tools; Select-a-health plan and the Health Care Advisor.
- Provided EEO Update Training for 3300 county managers and supervisors to ensure compliance with state AB 1825 mandated harassment prevention training and disability issues.
- Successful completion of several contract negotiations.
- The County Rideshare Program received the “Rideshare Program of the Year” award from the Orange County Transit Authority.

Integrated Waste Management

- Contributed to the financial stability of the County by transferring \$14.5 million to the General Fund in fiscal year 04-05 for bankruptcy recovery debt obligations.
- Incorporated a long-term strategy to comply with the requirements of the Federal and State Endangered Species Acts through participation in the Central/Coastal and proposed South Sub-Region Natural Community Conservation Plan (NCCP) to ensure that valuable habitat is established and preserved.
- Maintained a competitive disposal rate for solid waste disposal through long-term contracts with Orange County cities and waste haulers. Orange County’s disposal rate is currently among the lowest in the Southern California region.
- Properly managed nearly 6.3 million pounds of household hazardous waste at the County’s four Household Hazardous Waste Collection Centers from more than

90,300 participants, an increase of approximately 11% and 9% respectively, since the previous fiscal year

- Offered a Materials Exchange Program to the public; last year more than 400,000 pounds of materials were beneficially reused and diverted from disposal, providing an estimated savings in disposal cost of \$350,000.
- Safely disposed of more than 5.2 million tons of waste last year for disposal in Orange County's landfill system.
- Received Honorable Mention from the California State Association of Counties for Operating the Frank R. Bowerman Landfill in a Nature Reserve.
- Created a beneficial use for methane gas that resulted in an average of 10 megawatts of electricity produced each day at the Olinda Alpha and Prima Deshecha Landfills.

Internal Audit

- Internal Audit received from the Institute of Internal Auditors recognition as one of the most outstanding audit departments in the world. We are the first County Internal Audit Department in California and only the second County in the Country to receive such an award.

John Wayne Airport

- Successfully negotiated new five-year leases with commercial, commuter, and cargo airlines.
- Completed a new advertising lease with JCDecaux to provide a new state of the art advertising display program, including a "Landmarks" program that showcases 18 of Orange County's most unique cultural, historical and natural resources.
- Maintained an Aa3, A+ and A+ rating from Moody's Standard and Poor's and Fitch respectively on all outstanding bonds.
- Completed the Settlement Amendment Implementation Plan (SAIP) Financial Analysis and Preliminary Financial Plan report. Received Board approval for the SAIP financing program and submitted JWA's first Passenger Facility Charge application to the Federal Aviation Administration.
- JWA conducted a full-scale emergency exercise on March 2, 2005. Over 50 agencies, 15 area hospitals, and nearly 500 individuals participated in the simulated aircraft disaster/mass casualty exercise.

- Developed and implemented a new "Summer Plan" designed to assist travelers in the terminal during peak periods. JWA staff worked multiple shifts in the Riley Terminal to help ensure that passengers entered the proper screening lines, move lines smoothly and answer visitor questions. Nearly two-thirds of all Airport staff members assisted travelers during peak periods throughout the summer for a total of almost 1,700 hours of direct customer service.

Probation Department

- Development of policies and procedures for the collection of DNA samples.
The Probation Department developed internal policies in accordance with state law and began DNA collection on May 6, 2005. To date, the department has successfully collected and analyzed DNA samples and finger and palm prints from 1,440 juveniles who have had felony charges sustained and 2,536 adult felons.
- Expanded the use of voice recognition technology. Thirty-two deputies in Adult and Juvenile Investigations were trained on this new software. Implementing this program provides greater speed in the preparation of court reports as well as an increase in clerical efficiency.
- Worked in collaboration with:
 - The District Attorney and the Sheriff's Department. This ensured the prompt return of any probationer ordered back to Orange County to comply with changes in the Interstate Compact that governs the travel, movement, and supervision of adult probationers between states.
 - The District Attorney to suppress gang violence by committing additional resources for suppression in the cities of Tustin, Anaheim, and Santa Ana;
 - The Social Services Agency and Health Care Agency to increase participation in the "Wraparound" program to tailor resources to families in jeopardy of having a child removed from the family home and placed in foster care.
 - Family Court Services - provided planning and implementation services to assist in its Safe Havens program that provides for supervised visitation and safe exchange of children whose parents are involved in domestic disputes.
 - Superior Court - assisted with the planning and implementation of the Superior Court "Safe and Bright Futures for Children Initiative" grant, a two-year collaborative effort of multiple agencies to develop and recommend a comprehensive and sustainable system to identify and provide protective services for children who are exposed to domestic violence.
- Furnished the Courts with thorough investigations of criminal/delinquency cases.
For Adult investigations, 985 reports were generated with 100 percent delivered on time. Juvenile Investigations completed 4,765 reports with all but two percent delivered on time.
- Increased community safety through enhanced supervision of high-risk sex offenders.

- Took the lead in the state to draft legislation subsequently signed into law by the Governor authorizing the use of Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) technology as a supervision tool on high-risk offenders.
 - Worked closely with Immigration and Customs Enforcement to identify and remove offenders in violation of immigration law who pose a serious risk to the community through the commission of sex offenses.
 - Worked with the Department of Justice's Sexual Predator Apprehension Team (SPAT) by committing deputy resources and working to establish an MOU to enhance services in Orange County.
 - Chaired the Orange County Center for Sex Offender Management Committee and continued to work collaboratively with treatment providers, polygraph examiners, Social Services, the District Attorney, law enforcement, and other agencies to maintain the "best practices" containment model in the supervision and treatment of sex offenders.
 - Expanded the department's computer forensic capabilities to keep pace with technology to detect and deter illegal or violational activity of sex offenders, as well as other types of offenders.
 - Provided aggressive community education on Megan's law and issues related to sex offenders.
- Evaluated the YFRC program outcomes as required annually for the Corrections Standards Authority. Long-term recidivism follow-up rates on the original 8% Early Intervention Program study show the Youth and Family Resource Centers show continued effectiveness in reducing recidivism for the 8% younger youth in particular.
- Juvenile Institutions:
 - Provided a total of 264,854 bed days of treatment and education in FY 2004-2005 for youth being detained or serving commitments.
 - Developed technical systems specifications to automate the Juvenile Court Work Program (JCWP).
 - Initiated a video conferencing pilot project within the institutions, referred to as "Doc-In-A-Box," to enable medical assessments of in-custody wards via video conferencing to reduce the travel requirements and speed the treatment process.
 - Provided 60 additional secure female beds at Juvenile Hall with a \$4.8 million construction grant and 28 non-secure beds for girls at Los Pinos. Provided gender-specific training for staff to better prepare them for working with this population.
 - Completed new construction at Juvenile Hall that provided a new 1,700-square-foot state-of-the-art library and four new classrooms.
- Victim Services:
 - Our highly skilled Collection Officers collected over \$3.1 million in court-ordered restitution for victims.
 - Successfully implemented a new program with the California Franchise Tax Board (FTB) to assist with recovery of Court-ordered fines, fees, and penalties incurred by probationers. This allows the collection of debt owed

the County that might otherwise not be recovered. In the first seven months of operation, the program has added \$320,000 to overall collections from clients.

- Responded in a timely manner to every written request for information received from victims following the distribution of the annual Victim Satisfaction Survey.
- *Integrated all sworn staff identifiers into the Orange County Integrated Law and Justice Project (Electronic Subpoena System)*. The process became operational July 2005; it allows subpoenas to be delivered electronically directly to Probation staff through the Outlook System.

Public Defender

- The Orange County Public Defender's Office was named the "2005 Community Partner of the Year" by the Public Law Center.
- The department participation in the Proposition 36 and Drug Courts has assisted in helping an increased number of participants become productive, law-abiding members of society.
- The department collaborated with other agencies in the planning and development of a Drug Court for parents of dependent children to provide treatment programs for parents and aid in the reunification of families.
- The department participated in the development of the DUI Court pilot program that began operation in October 2004 in the Newport Beach facility of the Harbor Judicial District.
- In November 2004 the department sponsored and tutored two high school age teams of incarcerated youth in the Constitutional Rights Foundation Mock Trial competition, while others assisted in coaching high school Mock Trial teams.
- The California Attorneys for Criminal Justice organization named Deputy Alternate Defender Frank Ospino Public Defender of the Year.

Public Library:

- "Wi-fi" wireless access (for laptop computers and pda's) to the Library network and databases was installed at all branch libraries.
- A solar energy generation system was installed at the Foothill Ranch Branch, which will generate around 40% of the branch's electricity.

- A fundraising drive initiated by the Board of Supervisors and conducted by the Library raised some \$20,000 to replace children's books destroyed by Hurricane Katrina at the Jefferson Parish Public Library in Louisiana.
- A program to accept U.S. Passport applications was begun at the Costa Mesa Branch Library.
- The downloading of audio books for residents' personal computers, MP3 players and other devices, was initiated via the Library website.
- The number of books loaned to residents hit an all time record of 6,913,954 loans.

Registrar of Voters

- Brought all video production in-house (ability to produce training DVDs specific to each election).
- Sought and received hundreds of thousands of dollars in federal grants to fund projects.
- Complete reorganization of the department (roll out this past summer) to team structure.
- Created partnership with all City Clerks in the county - development of "City Clerk Partnership" which includes secure web sites for them, newsletters, updates on legislation, etc.
- Comprehensive marketing program (includes a PR component never present in this department) - this has resulted in \$5 million of verified media coverage in past two years.
- Extensive outreach to the community including speaking engagements on an on-going basis to community groups, chambers, Kiwanis, Rotary, voting events at Anaheim Convention Center (on a consistent basis).
- LIVE web site (first in the country). Allows community an inside view of the step by step Election Night reporting progress down to the precinct level.
- Development of a Vote Project program that will explore the history of voting using mock elections in schools and a traveling history museum of old voting equipment - detailed outreach program (using reimbursable federal funds).
- Pre-positioned teams, the first of its kind in the State of California, responded immediately to the supply needs of all precincts throughout the county.
- GPS satellite technology employed in the field - allowing quick response to problem poll sites.
- Rapid Deployment teams that respond in the field (similar to fire deployment) to trouble shoot problems.
- Complete redesign of the absentee in-bound process allowing efficient use of resources to speed up the ballot counting process.

Resources and Development Management

- The Federal Government appropriated \$61.65 Million for the Santa Ana River Mainstem Project (SARP) in Federal FY 2006. The Corps continued raising Prado Dam's embankment and constructing new outlet works. In the Prado Basin, Orange County acquired 40 acres of property and continued negotiations for an additional 250 acres. In the lower Santa Ana River, the Corps completed 4.5 miles of landscaping between Talbert Avenue and Riverview Golf Course and removed nearly 250,000 cubic yards of sand from the mouth of the Santa Ana River restoring channel capacity and replenishing beaches in Newport Beach.
- Last winter's storm events and County staff's response: Chairman Campbell's emergency request to the Governor and the President for declarations of emergency that were granted. Repair of the San Juan Creek damage. Flood threat emergency at Prado Dam gate project. Flood threat at the opening of the gates for Seven Oaks Dam. Emergency Operations Center – many late hours by RDMD, Sheriff, HCA and other County employees staffing the EOC during storm events.
- Storm related repair and clean-up projects by RDMD Operations & Maintenance, Construction and the Development Services Divisions to repair and respond to public and private storm damage.
- RDMD prepared and submitted Measure M transportation-related improvement applications requesting approximately \$28 million for road and bridge projects from this highly competitive grant program. The County was successful in receiving \$17.7 million in project funding. Significant funding allocations include Alton Parkway \$3.6 M, Ortega Highway \$5.8M, La Pata Avenue \$6.1M and Growth Management Areas \$1.7M. Previous funding cycle allocations averaged approximately \$7M.
- RDMD continues its cooperative effort with the State of California (Caltrans) in realigning and widening Laguna Canyon Road from the San Joaquin Hills Transportation Corridor (Rte 73) to the San Diego Freeway (I-405). By providing two travel lanes and bicycle lanes in each direction, this \$32 million project will enhance roadway safety, improve traffic flow, eliminate flooding, reconnect Laguna Lakes Nos. 2 & 3, provide wetland mitigation and restoration, underground overhead utilities and provide four trail and wildlife crossings. The project is currently 78% complete with an anticipated completion date later this year of October 2006.
- During 2005, RDMD continued to provide for infrastructure improvements by widening the Glassell Street bridge over the Santa Ana River (\$5.7M), completed the walkway at Kid's Beach (\$0.2M), began the slide repair on Overhill Drive (\$.66M), awarded the SCE Access Bridge at Laguna Coast Wilderness Park (\$.33M) and the Warner Avenue Bridge widening project over the Santa Ana River (\$5.2M), pavement management projects throughout the unincorporated area (\$1.7M).

- Board of Supervisors approval of additional funding to Harbors, Beaches & Parks projects.
- Park Ranger Citation Authority implementation.
- Settlement of the lawsuits challenging the approval of the Rancho Mission Viejo Ranch Plan – This 23,000 acre new planned community now moves forward.
- The completion of the Civic Center Law Library expansion.
- Commencement of the Harbors, Beaches and Parks Strategic Plan.
- Continuing construction of Laguna Canyon Road.
- Board of Supervisors approval and funding for an improved Code Enforcement Program including amendments of the Codified Ordinances.
- Continuing success and leadership in protecting the high-value County agriculture and horticulture industry from imported pests.
- Laguna Beach landslide and RDMD standing by ready to assist.
- The response to Hurricane Katrina and RDMD's rally to assist survivors displaced from the Gulf Coast Region.

Sheriff-Coroner

- Trained more than 5,000 first responders through the Emergency Response to Terrorism Incidents class sponsored by a federal grant through Homeland Security.
- Continued to decrease processing times of fingerprint records of arrestees in the County.
- The DNA Section workflow was restructured and reorganized resulting in a significant reduction in the average turn-around time on a DNA case from 87 days to 27 days.
- The Sex Crimes Detail/Sonar was instrumental in the development and implementation of placing "High Risk Sex Offender" data on the internet. The public can now obtain this information from the Sheriff's website.
- Continue to perform numerous successful computer forensic examinations relating to high profile sex crimes, homicide and computer crime cases.
- Airport Operations Division Air Support Bureau acquired a new helicopter to provide enhanced patrol and air support services.

Social Services Agency

- SSA collaborated with the Public Guardian to protect and/or recover almost \$20 million of assets of victims of elder and dependent adult abuse.
- SSA's Program Integrity and SSA Accounting Collections staff were successful in recouping \$2.1 million in cash overpayments and Food Stamp over issuances. SSA received a 12.5% incentive this year for its efforts.
- SSA partnered with Toys for Tots and enabled Operation Santa Claus to distribute over 45,000 toys and other items to Orange County's needy families.
- Food Stamp accuracy rate has continued at approximately 98 percent, well within state and federal tolerance levels and reduced the risk of future fiscal sanctions
- SSA employees contributed over 5,272 pounds of food and goods, making SSA the largest contributor in the County to the Hunger Food Drive.
- Medi-Cal staff determined eligibility and converted 733 In Home Supportive Services (IHSS) recipients not linked to cash-based Medi-Cal to Medi-Cal in order for them to continue to receive IHSS benefits.
- Family Self-Sufficiency has maintained a monthly Federal Work Participation average of 45% for federal fiscal year 2005. By comparison, California's participation rate for federal fiscal year 2004 (most recent data) was 23.1%. This is an indicator of how well Orange County welfare recipients are participating in Welfare-To-Work plans, with the goals of economic self-sufficiency and family well-being.
- Family Self-Sufficiency is utilizing of a unique screening tool and process to identify risk of child abuse in the CalWORKs population, which has garnered attention across the state and from several other states.
- The Family Self-Sufficiency and Children and Family Services Divisions received statewide recognition for the collaboration and coordinated services on mutual clients, with the vision of providing continuum prevention services that effectually reduce the number of children in foster care and residential treatment centers.
- The Children and Family Services Division's "Creating Family Connections" contracted program located 199 family members for 41 foster care youths. The program searches nationwide to find family members/connections to help youths in foster care with no family.