

Stone Soup Gazette

Orange County Health Needs Assessment

Volume 2, June 1998

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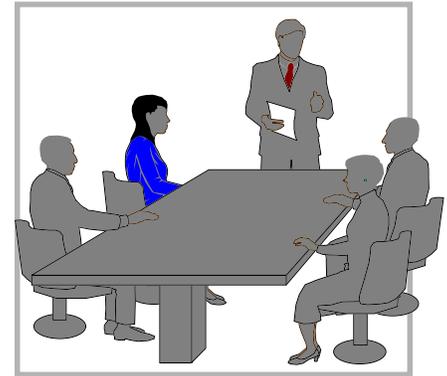
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OCHNA BEGINS WORK ON SECOND PHASE OF RESEARCH....

FOCUS GROUPS

By: Carol Burby, Mental Health Assoc.

At the April meeting of the Orange County Health Needs Assessment (OCHNA) Steering Committee, plans were made to conduct a series of focus groups on health care in Orange County. These groups are charged with gathering information about what works now in our system, gaps in service and barriers to accessing services.



Considering input from the Advisory Committee, as well as the experience of Steering Committee members, the first five focus groups were identified. They are:

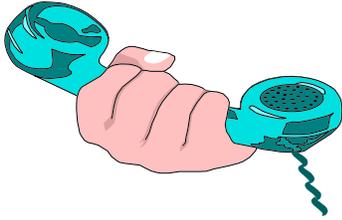
Behavioral Health	Len Foster, Coordinator
Pregnancy	Dan Gleason, Coordinator
Children/Youth	Laurie Bunnell, Coordinator
Seniors	Sister Martha Ann Fitzpatrick, Coordinator
Immigrant Residents	Lillian Reyes-Maples, Coordinator

The Steering Committee provided input on possible areas to be explored within each focus group, including sub-populations to consider. Teams, under the leadership of the above coordinators, have been assigned to determine the specific area of focus for each group, draft questions, and identify potential focus group participants. Facilitation will be provided through Cal State Fullerton.

These focus groups will allow access to additional members of our community and will provide information to supplement the results of the phone survey now being conducted. The Steering Committee expects these focus groups to offer a more in-depth analysis of the county's barriers to accessing health care and possible solutions.

More information will follow as we confirm details of these groups.

PHONE SURVEY UPDATE



As of Friday, June 12, 1998

Dr. Greg Robinson of the Social Science Research Center (SSRC) at
Cal State University Fullerton reported:

730 calls had been completed!
(335 Health Surveys)
(395 Behavioral Health Surveys)

According to Dr. Robinson all the participants of the survey are being very cooperative in giving the information requested.

Solving The Puzzles of Behavioral Health:

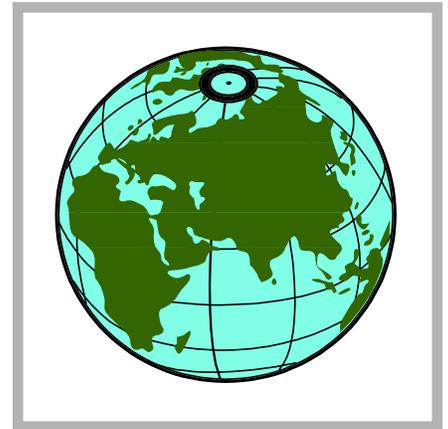
The John Henry Foundation

By: Hank Lamb, Director Program Development

In the nine years since its inception, The John Henry Foundation (A non-profit public corporation) has provided medical counseling, support groups, vocational training and employment, as well as affordable housing and social/recreational activities for adults with chronic mental illnesses. Their mission is improving the lives of people suffering with mental illness (e.g. schizophrenia, depression, manic-depression and obsessive compulsive disorders). "We believe the mentally ill can learn to take responsibility for the treatment of their illness and be good citizens in the community," according to Dr. Rick Massimino, founder. The Foundation provides many services at no charge to their clients, for more information regarding programs, services or client referrals please call Vicky Zinser at (714)539-9597



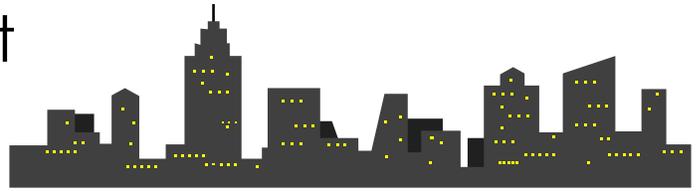
On Saturday, November 21, 1998, the Foundation will be celebrating its 8th Annual "Monte Carlo Night" fundraiser, graciously hosted by entrepreneur John Crean at his home the Village Crean Estate in Newport Beach. The fundraiser will feature a silent auction, dinner and casino games, proceeds will be used to support the Foundation's services and program. To donate items for the auction or to be included on the invitation list call Carol Montsinger, Executive Director or Hank Lamb, Director of Program Development at (714) 539-9597.



WWW.OC.CA.GOV/OCHNA/

Come visit our web page and check out what is new and exciting, as we venture forth on our quest for a healthier community. If you have questions, suggestions or wish to get involved, please contact Pamela Austin, Project Manager at the Healthcare Assoc. of Southern California at (714) 677-7155, ext. 13 or e-mail her directly at paustin@hasc.org

Community Highlight



Action Plan to Repair the Health Care Safety Net

By: Felix Schwarz

For the past year, the Health Care Council of Orange County has been conducting town meetings and holding *ad hoc* committee meetings as part of a planning process to develop a health care **Action Plan**.

The process began with the accumulation of an extensive number of health research reports, needs assessments, and county-wide health studies and surveys conducted over the past few years. To these were added the 1995-1997 SB 697 surveys and public benefit plans submitted to the Health Care Council Research Collaborative, with researchers from the California State Universities at Fullerton and Long Beach, who reviewed and analyzed all of these materials. The resulting report was published in February 1998 and became "Part One" of the **Action Plan**.

Part Two of the plan consist of sections on Children and Adolescents; Older Adults and the Disabled Population; Uninsured Individuals and Families; Behavioral Health Needs; and AIDS/HIV Education Prevention. Each section contains a number of proposals regarding potential programs and projects which are either underfunded, or unavailable in Orange County, and which the community has brought forward to be included in this compilation of unmet needs.

Scores of providers, consumers and community organizations have participated in this planning process. The Plan was published by the Health Care Council at the end of April 1998, and already several private foundations have been approached to review the programs and proposals which fit with their areas of interest. The Health Care Council and its partner organizations will seek private "seed-money" funding for the implementation of all of these sixty-plus projects in the coming year. However, clearly the \$15 million price-tag may be beyond the resources available from foundations. The Council is, accordingly, requesting additional County and State funds to implement many of the projects in the **Action Plan**.

As Orange County Health Needs Assessment (OCHNA) goes forward under the auspices of the Healthcare Association of Southern California (HASC) and the Orange County Health Agency (HCA); the Health Care Council will continue to support and cooperate with this important effort. The Council has been an active participant in the development of the Needs Assessment since its inception. It will be of particular interest to Council to see whether the telephone survey and focus group data developed by this project will support the findings of the Health Care Council Action Plan or whether additional needs and priorities emerge. In any event, the knowledge gained regarding health issues in Orange County can only help to bring about a more rational and informed basis for the development of public policy for health care.

Stone Soup Gazette

The Stone Soup Gazette is the official Newsletter of the Orange County Health Needs Assessment Project. This is a monthly publication. We welcome your comments, concerns or suggestion. Deadline for articles is the 10th of the month.

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Dr. Gwyn Parry, Co-chair...Hoag Memorial Hosp.
Pamela Austin, Project Mgr.....HASC
Anaheim General Hospital
Anaheim Memorial Med. Ctr.
CalOPTIMA
Children's Hospital of OC
Coalition of OC Community Clinics
Coastal Communities Hospital
Chapman Medical Center
Fountain Valley Regional Hospital
Garden Grove Hospital
Health Care Assoc. of So. Calif.
Health Care Council of OC
Hoag Memorial Hosp. Presbyterian
Huntington Beach Hospital
Irvine Medical Center
Kaiser Permanente
La Palma/Martin Luther Hospitals
Los Alamitos Medical Center
March of Dimes
Mission Hospital Regional MC
OC Medical Assoc.
Orange Coast Memorial MC
Orange County HCA
Pacentia Linda Hospital
Saddleback Memorial MC
St. Joseph Health System
St. Joseph Hospital
St. Jude Medical Center
Santa Ana Hospital
South Coast Medical Center
UCI Medical Center
United Way of OC
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Western Medical Center/ SA/Anaheim

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Jo Caines.KOCE TV, Channel 50
Mai Cong.....Vietnamese Community OC
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Len Foster.....OC HCA
Gene Howard... *Orangewood Children's Fnd*
Pat Klotz.....California State PTA
Jim Levy.....Senior Citizens Council
Stanley C. Lowenberg, M.....OC Medical Assoc.
Glenda Mourer....*Family Preservation & Support*
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Gwyn Parry, M.D.....*Hoag Memorial Hosp. Presbyterian*
Julie Puentes.....*OC Business Council*
Felix Schwartz.....*Human Relations Commission, OC*
William Shane.....*The National Conference*
The Honorable James W.Silva.....*OC Board of Supervisors*
Jim Spriene.....*Laguna Beach Police Dept., Rep., Sheriffs and Police Chiefs Assoc.*
Hugh Stallworth, M.D.,.....OC HCA
Ron Wright, DDS.....100 Black Men of OC

OCHNA project funded by **The California Endowment** and **Grant Administration** by **OC Community Foundation**

United Way's GIS Project Mapping Orange County's Resources

By Pamela Austin, Proj. Mgr., OCHNA

United Way of Orange County has assembled a group of Orange County funders, researchers, and service providers, in a collective effort to design and develop a Geographic Information System (GIS) to map the both the needs and resources of the county. The GIS technology will allow the development of one comprehensive database that will incorporate demographic and geographic data, as well as descriptive information regarding health and human service providers.

The end product will be a computer accessed, data driven system that will respond to a variety of inquires that involve population demographics, distribution of funding, health and human services by type, resources, and target population served. The user will be able to identify "critical needs" by geographic service areas, the system will not be used as a referral system, but will provide valuable information for providers, community advocates, consumers and policy makers.

The Orange County Health Needs Assessment (OCHNA) project participates on the GIS steering committee, and United Way provides reciprocal representation with OCHNA. It is the goal of the OCHNA to provide the results of the County Wide Health telephone survey, as well as the secondary data to the GIS effort. OCHNA is working closely with Dr. Greg Robinson, Director of Center for Social Science Research, at California State University, Fullerton (CSUF), a central contributor in both projects as is Dr. William Gayk, Director of the Center for Demographic Research, CSUF.

Stephanie McElheney, Sr. Vice President, Community Service Division and the coordinating staff from United Way of OC, is working hard with Chairman William Steiner, Supervisor and co-chair Dr. Soraya Coley, Dean of the School of Human Development and Community Services, CSUF, to meet the target date of late Fall, for the completion of the first phase of the project.

OCHNA

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