



**Agenda Item No. 1
June 6, 2012 Meeting**

DATE: May 29, 2012
TO: Children and Families Commission of Orange County
FROM: Michael M. Ruane, Executive Director 
SUBJECT: Proposed Capacity Building Grant Cycle

SUMMARY:

At the May 2012 meeting, the Children and Families Commission approved the initiation of a Capacity Building Grant Cycle focused on one-time funding that will support capital projects for a service expansion and new program development. The allocated funding provides for up to \$3.5 million divided into two categories: \$1.5 million for New Program Expansion and \$2 million for Capital Facility Expansion. This agenda item includes recommended criteria, process, and timeline for the Capacity Building Grant Cycle.

Capacity Building Grant Criteria

Consistent with prior Commission direction, the capacity building projects must focus on the expansion of services to children ages 0-5 that meet documented community needs.

- The expansion of services can be either through a new facility or expansion, expanded services to incorporate new programs, one-time investments to reduce costs, and launching new demonstration projects to better meet the needs of children 0-5.
- Projects for existing funded programs will need to demonstrate how it will reduce the ongoing demand on the Commission's budget.
- Projects eligible for other Catalytic Investment opportunities are not eligible for Capacity Building grants.

Capacity Building Grant Cycle Timeline

Due to the level of demand for new capacity building grants, it is recommended that the Commission conduct a Request for Application (RFA) process. The table below outlines the timeline.

	Activity
June 30, 2012	Release of Request for Application
July 1-30, 2012	Application Conferences (minimum of two)
August 1, 2012	Applications Due to Commission
Fall 2012	Funding awards (final date is dependent on the number of applications received)

Staff will conduct an initial review of the proposals received to ensure that they meet threshold criteria, followed by a thorough review process and input to develop recommended funding allocations. A working group of Commissioners will be involved in the review process and funding allocations.

STRATEGIC PLAN & FISCAL SUMMARY:

This agenda item is consistent with all Strategic Plan goals. The proposed Funding Allocation Plan would require an adjustment to the adopted FY 2012/13 budget.

PRIOR COMMISSION ACTIONS:

- May 2012- Progress Report on Capacity Building Grant Opportunity
- March 2012 - Update on Round 2 Catalytic Investments
- January 2012 - Financial Planning Workshop Presentation

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Direct staff to issue a Request for Application for a Capacity Building Grant Cycle and return in the fall 2012 with recommended funding allocations.

Contact: Kim Goll