

**DATE:** December 18, 2007

**TO:** Children and Families Commission of Orange County

**FROM:** Michael M. Ruane, Executive Director 

**SUBJECT:** Statewide and Regional Partnership Activities for 2008

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**SUMMARY:**

Your Commission has taken a leadership role in statewide and regional association activities, particularly in the area of developing innovative partnerships and programs for statewide implementation.

For the upcoming year, the following continued activities are planned and presented for Commission approval:

**STATEWIDE PARTNERSHIP ACTIVITIES:**

**1. Co-Sponsorship of 2008 Annual Commissioner Conference May 21 – May 23 in Orange County (Not to exceed \$5,000)**

The 2008 Conference will again be held in Orange County. It is customary for the host county to sponsor events in conjunction with the Annual Conference and to showcase local programs. It is recommended that your Commission also co-sponsor a workshop and exhibit for County Commissioners attending the 2008 Annual Conference and authorize reimbursement of related expenses. In 2007, the topic and scope of the program was to showcase your sponsorship of the Sesame Workshop Healthy Habits for Life Programs and Kid Builders. The 2008 program will be further reviewed as part of your monthly Commissioner meetings.

**2. Statewide Partnership Coordination**

\$25,000 will again be contributed to the First 5 Association of California to implement a work program approved by the Executive Director to continue work with Boys and Girls Clubs, Reach Out and Read, and other statewide organizations as well as joint efforts with the statewide county (CSAC), educational and health organizations, including but not limited to implementing a workshop at the 2008 CSAC conference and joint legislative programs. This work plan would be reviewed by your commission legislative liaisons (Commission Chair Minon and Commissioner Kochendorfer) prior to approval.

The First 5 Association of California would be the fiscal agent for both of the above items.

**REGIONAL PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES:**

Several important statewide programs are coordinated by the six regions within California, and this trend is increasing. Orange County is one of eight counties in the Southern Region which spans from San Diego to Santa Barbara. Technical Assistance funds are now disbursed to the Southern California Region (San Bernardino County serves as fiscal agent) and recently a research and an evaluation collaborative was also established for the region (Riverside County is fiscal agent). LA County and Orange County take a leadership role in many statewide activities, and each county in the region is expected to host one Southern California region meeting and one regional evaluation meeting each year. The meetings are usually held at the LA County Commission offices due to its central location and proximity to the train station.

**STRATEGIC PLAN & FISCAL SUMMARY:**

The program has been specifically reviewed in relation to the Strategic Plan, and is consistent with all outcome goals. The direct funding request for statewide programs is for the amount not to exceed \$30,000. Funding for statewide partnership activities and any regional meeting expenses is included in the FY2007-2008 Budget.

**RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:**

1. Find that Commission sponsorship of the identified events supports programs that are consistent with, or furthers the goals in the adopted strategic plan.
2. Approve the funding contributions for statewide and regional partnership activities and authorize payment by the Auditor-Controller upon approval by the Commission Executive Director.

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