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OF ORANGE COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

DATE: December 29, 2008
TO: Children and Families Commission of Orange County
FROM: Michael M. Ruane, Executive Director 
SUBJECT: 2009 Statewide and Regional Partnership Activities

SUMMARY:

The Children and Families Commission of Orange County has leadership roles in statewide and regional First 5 activities. This item is an overview of the Orange County Commission participation for 2009. Commission approval is requested to continue the state and regional First 5 partnerships at the funding levels identified in the Fiscal Year 2008-09 Annual Operating Budget.

Statewide Partnerships

The Orange County Commission's Executive Director serves on the First 5 California Association Executive Committee and was elected to the position of Legislative Representative. The position represents the First 5 Association in meetings and briefings with the California legislative delegates, and statewide organizations including the California Dental Association, California Medical Association, California State Association of Counties (CSAC), and others. The Orange County Commission staff participates in the First 5 Association meetings every other month in Sacramento. A \$25,000 contribution to First 5 California is recommended 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 and joint efforts with CSAC, educational and health organizations, including but not limited to implementing a workshop at the 2009 CSAC conference and joint legislative programs.

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 with San Bernardino County serving as the fiscal agent. Recently, a research and an evaluation collaborative was also established for the region with Riverside County serving as the fiscal agent. Los Angeles and Orange counties take leadership roles 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 First 5 LA office 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 is for the amount not to exceed \$25,000. Funding for statewide partnership activities and any regional meeting expenses are included in the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 operating budget.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

1. Find that partnerships with the First 5 organizations 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.

Contact: Kelly Pijl