



**Special Meeting Item  
August 22, 2012 Meeting**

**DATE:** August 20, 2012  
**TO:** Children and Families Commission of Orange County  
**FROM:** Michael M. Ruane, Executive Director   
**SUBJECT:** CalOptima Request for Mutual Aid

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**A. Request for Mutual Aid from CalOptima**

CalOptima is the public health plan for Orange County and implements the Medi-Cal, Health Families and other critical programs in Orange County and has over 400,000 members. The Commission has worked in collaboration with Cal Optima on issues of improving access to health care, developmental screening and reimbursement for preventative services over the years and they are a critical partner to improving health conditions for young children and their families, one of the Commission's key goals. As you may know, most of the executive team at Cal Optima has departed recently and the recruitment for key positions will take some time to accomplish. In response, CalOptima Board has requested assistance during this transition period. This would be structured as "mutual aid" support by another related public entity, and they would reimburse the Commission for the Executive Director position costs during this assignment.

This assignment would be consistent with the Commission goal of ensuring quality health care for young children and their families in the community and implementing community partnerships as defined in the adopted Strategic Plan.

Commission Counsel will be sending a proposed agreement with CalOptima under separate cover to your Board. This agreement addresses full reimbursement of Commission staff costs and liability, as well as other key issues.

**B. Plan for Coverage of Commission Operations**

Should your Commission approve the mutual aid request and agreement, it will be important to approve a plan for coverage of Commission operations during this transition period. This plan will be presented at the Commission meeting.

**C. Closed Session Items, if Needed**

There are two Closed Session items included as part of the Special Meeting Agenda:

1. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE APPOINTMENT – (Government Code § 54957)  
Title: Interim Executive Director
2. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION – (Government Code § 54957)  
Title: Commission Executive Director

**Commissioners**

**Executive Director**

**RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:**

1. Authorize Executive Director to assist CalOptima on a temporary basis by serving as Interim Chief Operating Officer for CalOptima and be granted a leave of absence from Commission duties save for, and except on an as needed basis. All other provisions of the Executive Director employment agreement would continue to remain in effect during this assignment.
2. Appoint an Interim Executive Director.
3. Authorize Interim Executive Director and Commission Counsel to negotiate and execute an agreement with CalOptima for the reimbursement of Executive Director's salary and benefit costs while serving as Interim Chief Operating Officer with CalOptima.
4. Authorize Chair or Interim Executive Director and Commission Counsel to sign all documents and take all actions necessary and appropriate to carry out and implement this action.

cc: Commission Counsel  
Clerk of the Commission