



Children & Families  
Commission of Orange County

Agenda Item No. 6  
November 5, 2008 Meeting

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ORANGE COUNTY  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

**DATE:** October 27, 2008  
**TO:** Children and Families Commission of Orange County  
**FROM:** Michael M. Ruane, Executive Director *Michael M. Ruane*  
**SUBJECT:** **Services to Homeless Children and Families**

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**SUMMARY:**

The Commission supports a comprehensive Homeless Prevention program that includes five shelter expansion projects completed in partnership with HomeAid Orange County, transitional shelters that house families with children ages 0-5, and outreach and care coordination services to motels and emergency shelters. A list of these projects and a description of the Commission's investment are included as Attachment 1.

**Progress Report**

Along with the continued support of the projects described in Attachment 1, the Commission staff is working on several projects that will expand services to homeless families. Listed below are updates and recommended action on those projects.

**1. Affordable Housing Clearinghouse**

As part of the annual planning meeting in June 2008, the Commission renewed its priority on expanding the transitional shelter beds available for families with young children by allocating \$10 million to the Affordable Housing Clearinghouse. Commission staff has been working with the Affordable Housing Clearinghouse to develop the complex agreement and anticipates returning to the Commission for final approval in January 2009.

**2. Families Forward/City of Lake Forest**

The Commission set aside \$500,000 at the October 2008 meeting to match an allocation from the City of Lake Forest to acquire and rehabilitate up to six units of additional transitional housing available to homeless families with young children. Commission staff is working with Families Forward, HomeAid Orange County, and the City to finalize the scope and budget. Once the City has approved the scope and budget, Commission staff will return with a final scope of work and funding agreement.

**3. Tustin Family Campus Orange County Social Services Agency**

The County of Orange Social Services Agency is planning the construction of four homes for 15 mothers with children 0-5 at the Tustin Family Campus. Eligible residents will be mothers referred from the Dependency Drug Court when they are reunified with their children. Intensive support services to be provided on site include, but will not be limited to; parent education, life skills classes, sober living, education, job training and employment assistance, Cal-WORKS, Family

Maintenance, and child care. Capital costs are covered, but start-up costs for the program are a major barrier at this time.

The Commission set aside \$1,500,000 at the July 2008 meeting and the County Social Services Agency staff are in the process of selecting a service provider for the project. Once the service provider is selected, a final scope of work and budget will be developed and presented for approval at the January 2009 Commission meeting.

#### ***4. Illumination Foundation – Capacity Grant for Fiscal Sponsor***

The Illumination Foundation was founded in early 2008 by six University of California, Irvine MBA students and is seeking non-profit status. The organization's mission is to improve the lives of individuals who find themselves homeless and in crisis. The main services include connecting homeless families to wrap around services, bridge gaps, and integrating existing services. The current operations of the Illumination Foundation include providing rental assistance to stabilize families in housing, case management (already supported by the Commission through the grant to the Orange County Department of Education- see Attachment 1 under Outreach & Care Coordination), medical services, and eligibility screening and enrollment. The Illumination Foundation currently provides these services to 25 families (39 adults- 2 expectant mothers), and 51 children.

##### **Action:**

The organization has experienced significant growth and increased contributions of cash donations, grants, and volunteer time. Local foundations have expressed interest in additional funding support and requested the Commission establish an agreement with a fiscal sponsor. Commission approval is recommended to develop a Capacity Grant to the Volunteer Center of Orange County in an amount not to exceed \$75,000 for the provision of fiscal intermediary services and technical assistance to ensure that the organization develop capacity to continue to grow and expand services to homeless families.

#### ***5. HomeAid's Essentials for Young Lives Campaign***

In addition to providing direct support for operational expenses and the construction of new transitional shelter projects, the Commission has served as presenting sponsor for HomeAid Orange County's *Essentials for Young Lives Campaign*. The Campaign raises public awareness on the issues of homeless families with young children through a collection drive for consumable baby products such as baby food, diapers, bottles, and wipes. These items are critically needed by the network of transitional shelters that provide services to families with very young children. The campaign is scheduled to kick off in the spring 2009 and conclude on Mother's Day. Last year over 110,000 items were collected and over 25 businesses agreed to support the Campaign either through providing a collection site or with volunteers and in kind services (see Attachment 3).

##### **Action:**

It is recommended that the Commission's community education partnership with HomeAid Orange County focus on the *Essentials for Young Lives Campaign* and renew the existing \$50,000 sponsorship. The Commission would serve as the exclusive named sponsor for the Campaign and work with our existing corporate sponsors and grantees to expand the collection sites and donations.

**STRATEGIC PLAN & FISCAL SUMMARY:**

The proposed projects have been specifically reviewed in relation to the Strategic Plan, and are designed to further the Strong Families/Homeless Prevention goal, among others. Funding for this item is included in the FY 2008/09 Budget within the Strong Families Homeless Prevention budget category.

**PRIOR COMMISSION ACTIONS:**

1. Affordable Housing Clearinghouse set aside approved July 2008
2. Families Forward set aside approved October, 2008
3. Tustin Family Campus Orange County Social Services Agency set aside approved July, 2008
4. HomeAid Orange County's Essentials for Young Lives sponsorships approval February, 2008

**RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:**

1. Authorize sponsorship of the 2009 *Essentials for Young Lives Campaign* with HomeAid Orange County and authorize Executive Director to execute any required documents for the sponsorship and funding contribution.
2. Adopt Resolution (Attachment 2) authorizing the Executive Director and Commission Counsel to prepare and negotiate Agreement PS-71 with the Volunteer Center of Orange County in an amount not to exceed \$75,000 to provide fiscal intermediary services and technical assistance to the Illumination Foundation for a period starting November 1, 2008 through October 31, 2009.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Commission Funded Homeless Prevention Programs
2. Resolution for the Volunteer Center of Orange County
3. *Essentials for Young Lives Campaign* – 2008 Campaign Materials

**Contact:** Kim Goll

## Commission Funded Homeless Prevention Programs

### 1. Supportive Housing for Pregnant and Single Mothers

#### Casa Teresa

- Supported through our partnership with HomeAid Orange County.
- Provides housing and supportive services to homeless young pregnant women.
- Commission's average annual investment is \$244,167.
- Funding supports 24% of the 100 total beds available.
- Program funding renewed in July 2008 at current level through December 31, 2011.

#### Precious Life Shelter

- Supported through our partnership with HomeAid Orange County
- Provides housing and supportive services to homeless young pregnant women.
- Commission's annual average investment is \$175,000.
- Funding supports 100% of the 24 total beds available.
- Program funding renewed in July 2008 at current level through December 31, 2011.
- Expanding program with HomeAid Orange County support for 8 additional beds specifically allocated to support reunification program offered to successful transitional housing program graduates who are working on reunifying with additional children that were previously removed from their custody.

#### Colette's Children's Home

- Provides housing and supportive services to homeless single mothers with children and supports mothers who are working on reunifying with additional children that were previously removed from their custody.
- Commission's annual average investment is \$105,000.
- Funding supports 53% of the 75 total beds available.
- Program funding renewed in March 2008 with one year extension at level amount through June 30, 2009.

#### Heritage House Village, Southern California Alcohol and Drug Program

- Provides housing and supportive services to homeless single mothers with children and supports mothers who are working on reunifying with additional children that were previously removed from their custody.
- Commission's annual average investment is \$130,500.
- Funding supports 53% of the 38 total beds available.
- Program funding renewed in March 2008 with one year extension at level amount through June 30, 2009.

## Commission Funded Homeless Prevention Programs

### 2. Supportive Housing for Families

#### Village of Hope, Orange County Rescue Mission

- Supported through our partnership with HomeAid Orange County.
- Provides housing and supportive services to families of any size with children of all ages, although Commission funding only supports those families with children ages prenatal through five.
- Commission's average annual investment is \$28,000 over 30 years through 2037.
- Funding supports 35% of the 192 total beds available.

#### Hope Family Housing, Orange County Rescue Mission

- Supported through our partnership with HomeAid Orange County.
- Provides housing and supportive services to families of any size with children of all ages, although Commission funding only supports those families with children ages prenatal through five.
- Commission's average annual investment is \$43,000 over 30 years through 2038.
- Funding supports 58% of the 85 total beds available.

#### New Vista, Fullerton Interfaith Emergency Services

- Supported through our partnership with HomeAid Orange County.
- Provides housing and supportive services to families of any size with children of all ages, although Commission funding only supports those families with children ages prenatal through five.
- Commission's average annual investment is \$37,000 through 2010.
- Funding supports 53% of the 50 total beds available.

#### Homes for Reunification/Tustin Family Campus, County of Orange Social Services Agency

- Funding set-aside approved in July 2008 in an amount not to exceed \$1,500,000
- Staff is working with County of Orange Social Services Agency to develop the scope of work
- Construction of four homes expected to begin during spring 2009
- Will provide housing and supportive services to mothers with children ages prenatal through five who are referred from the Dependency Drug Court when they are reunified with their children.

### 3. Outreach & Care Coordination to Motels and Emergency Shelters

#### Strong Beginnings Strong Families, Orange County Rescue Mission

- Provides services to families with children prenatal through age five who live in motels, including emergency food, medical assistance, self-sufficiency development, and transition to permanent housing in order that the children may have a stable and nurturing environment enabling them to become ready for school.
- Commission's annual average investment is \$190,000 with outreach to over 60 motels.
- Program funding renewed in March 2008 with one year extension at level amount through June 30, 2009.

## Commission Funded Homeless Prevention Programs

### Outreach & Care Coordination to Motels and Emergency Shelters – continued

#### Operation Keeping Kids Safe, VNA Foundation of Orange County

- Identifies environmental risk factors for children, provides in-home injury prevention education, and distributes/installs child safety devices for those families with children prenatal through age five living in motels and others at risk for childhood injury due to a hazardous living environment, lack of parental safety awareness, and/or lack of access to affordable or free child safety devices.
- Commission's annual average investment is \$190,000 with outreach to over 60 motels.
- Program funding renewed in March 2008 with one year extension at level amount through June 30, 2009.

#### Motel Family Referral Partnership at Magnolia Park Family Resource Center, City of Garden Grove

- Utilizes the Family Resource Center model to support Public Health Nurses and *Promotoras* that provide home visitation outreach and supportive services to families with children ages prenatal through five living in motels and link families with other services based on specific needs.
- Commission's annual average investment is \$196,596.
- Program funding renewed in March 2007 with a term currently ending on June 30, 2010.

#### Comprehensive Health Assessment Team for the Homeless, Orange County Department of Education (OCDE)

- Pilot program to provide care coordination with services for families with children ages prenatal through five facing homelessness in Orange County's cold weather armory emergency shelters.
- Funding supports social worker and interns to develop comprehensive care coordination plans and link families to appropriate services based on their needs.
- Commission's annual investment is \$100,000 for a 12-month term that began in July 2008.

#### Mercy House

- Provides enhanced services to families with children ages prenatal through five who are facing homelessness in Orange County's cold weather armory emergency shelters to ensure that young children are not further exposed to this type of emergency shelter situation.
- Agency under contract to be the National Guard Armory emergency cold weather shelter provider.
- Commission's annual investment is \$175,000 for a 12-month term that began in July 2008.

**CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION OF ORANGE COUNTY**

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_-08-C&FC**

**November 5, 2008**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION OF ORANGE COUNTY DIRECTING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OR DESIGNEE TO PREPARE AND NEGOTIATE AGREEMENT NO. PS-71 WITH THE VOLUNTEER CENTER OF ORANGE COUNTY; AND MAKING CERTAIN FINDINGS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH**

**WHEREAS**, in order to facilitate the creation and implementation of an integrated, comprehensive, and collaborative system of information and services to enhance optimal early childhood development, the legislature adopted legislation set forth in the California Children and Families Act of 1998, Health and Safety Code Section 130100, *et seq.* (as amended, the "Act") implementing the Children and Families First Initiative passed by the California electorate in November, 1998 and establishing the California Children and Families Commission and County Children and Families Commissions, including this Children and Families Commission of Orange County ("Commission"); and

**WHEREAS**, Commission adopted its Strategic Plan to define how funds authorized under the Act and allocated to the Commission should best be used to meet the critical needs of Orange County's children prenatal to five years of age as codified in the Act; and

**WHEREAS**, the Executive Director and Commission Counsel have prepared a standard Master Agreement for Services ("Master Agreement"), which was approved by the Commission; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commission desires to authorize the Executive Director or designee to prepare and negotiate Agreement No. PS-71 with the Volunteer Center of Orange County, in an amount not to exceed \$75,000 for the term of November 1, 2008 through October 31, 2009 to act as fiscal intermediary and provide technical assistance for the Illumination Foundation as specified in the November 5, 2008 staff report for this Agenda Item; and

**WHEREAS**, Commission has reviewed the staff report relating to the Scope of Services to be provided and hereby finds and determines that the proposed Agreement is in furtherance of and consistent with the Commission's Strategic Plan; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION OF ORANGE COUNTY AS FOLLOWS:**

**Section 1** Commission finds and determines the foregoing Recitals are true and correct and are a substantive part of this Resolution.

**Section 2** Commission hereby authorizes the Executive Director or designee to prepare and negotiate the terms, conditions and final form of Agreement PS-71 with the Volunteer Center of Orange County, in an amount not to exceed \$75,000 for the term of November 1, 2008 through October 31, 2009 to act as fiscal intermediary and provide technical assistance for the Illumination

Foundation consistent with the November 5, 2008 staff report and scope of services referenced therein; and

**Section 3** The form of Agreement PS-71 with the Volunteer Center of Orange County shall be substantially similar to the form of the standard Master Agreement, subject to minor, non-substantive revisions as reviewed and approved by the Executive Director or designee. The approval by the Executive Director of Agreement PS-71 shall be conclusively evidenced by the execution and delivery of the Agreement by the Commission Chair to the Commission Clerk.

**Section 4** Commission hereby approves Agreement No. PS-71 with the Volunteer Center of Orange County to act as fiscal intermediary and provide technical assistance for the Illumination Foundation as specified in the November 5, 2008 staff report for this Agenda Item.

**Section 5** The Commission Chair and the Clerk of the Commission are hereby authorized to execute and attest, respectively, Agreement PS-71 on behalf of the Commission.

**Section 6** A copy of the final Agreement PS-71 with the Volunteer Center of Orange County, when executed by the Commission Chair and attested by the Clerk of the Commission shall be appended hereto as a part of Exhibit A to this Resolution. Exhibit A is hereby fully incorporated as a part of this Resolution by this reference and made a part hereof. The final executed Agreement shall be placed on file in the office of the Clerk of the Commission.

**Section 7** In addition to the authorization of Section 2 above, the Executive Director (or his designee) is hereby authorized, on behalf of the Commission, (i) to sign all documents necessary and appropriate to carry out and implement the Service Agreement, (ii) to cause the issuance of warrants, (iii) to administer the Commission's obligations, responsibilities, and duties to be performed under such agreement, and (iv) during the term thereof to provide waivers, administrative interpretations, and minor modifications of the provisions of such agreement in the furtherance thereof.

**Section 8** The Clerk of the Commission shall certify to the adoption of this Resolution.



**EXHIBIT A TO RESOLUTION OF COMMISSION**

(Attach copy of final executed Agreement No. PS-71 with the Volunteer Center of Orange County)



In Partnership With



## Mother's Day

### Essentials For Young Lives Drive

Monday, April 28—Thursday, May 1, 2008

#### HomeAid Service Provider Partners Providing Aid for Families and Children

**Anaheim Interfaith Shelter** - serves homeless families through a nine month transitional housing program.

**Casa Teresa** – provides a temporary home and on-going support for pregnant women 18 years of age and older who are alone.

**Families Forward** – understands the sense of isolation and hopelessness of parents who feel they have lost the ability to care for their children. They assist families with housing, counseling, food, referrals, career coaching and other services.

**Fullerton Interfaith Emergency Service**— works to end hunger and homelessness for families in need.

**H.I.S. House** – Homeless Intervention and Shelter House assists homeless individuals, couples and families regain self-sufficiency through housing, training, counseling and personal support.

**Human Options** – mission to help battered women, their families and our community break the cycle of domestic violence.

**Interval House** - offers a comprehensive range of programs and services to abused women and their children all under one roof.

**Laura's House** – mission to change social beliefs, attitudes and the behaviors that perpetuate domestic violence while creating a safe space in which to empower individuals and families affected by abuse.

**Mary's Shelter** – serves the community by providing comprehensive residential care in a loving, supportive environment for pregnant minors who are in a homeless or other crisis situation.

**Mercy House** – provides homeless prevention, emergency services, transitional housing and permanent housing with supportive services to homeless men, women and children.

**Orange County Catholic Worker, Isalah House** – is an emergency shelter which daily feeds over 100 men, women and children.

**Orange County Rescue Mission** – aids homeless individuals and families by providing assistance in the areas of counseling, education, job training, shelter, food, clothing, health care and independent living communities.

**Precious Life Shelter** – provides residential and supportive services for homeless pregnant adult women.

**Shelter for the Homeless** – provides emergency, transitional and permanent housing, as well as education, counseling and job training for homeless and low-income families.

**Women's Transitional Living Center** – provides emergency and transitional housing for women fleeing domestic violence.



MOTHER'S DAY ESSENTIALS FOR YOUNG LIVES DRIVE  
APRIL 28 - MAY 1, 2008

*This Mother's Day,  
help those who need it the most.*



In Partnership With



Children & Families  
Commission of Orange County

Mothers and children are the fastest-growing segment of the homeless population. With just a moment of your time, you can help HomeAid provide essentials for those who need assistance most. Simply bring one or more of the following to HomeAid between Monday, April 28 and Thursday, May 1, 2008.

**ESSENTIALS NEEDED:**  
Diapers (sizes newborn to toddler) \* Baby wipes \* Baby food  
Baby bottles \* Baby products (wash, lotion, etc.)

Drop Off at HomeAid Orange County  
17744 Sky Park Circle, Suite 170 \* Irvine, CA 92614  
For more information, call 949.553.9510 or visit [homeaidoc.org](http://homeaidoc.org)

An alternative way to participate in the first annual drive is by making donations on HomeAid's gift registry at [www.babiesrus.com](http://www.babiesrus.com).  
Access the registry by last name using 'homeaid' and make your selections from the listed items.

# YOUR COMPANY CAN MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE HELPING THOSE WHO NEED IT THE MOST.

ATTACHMENT 3

MOTHER'S DAY ESSENTIALS FOR YOUNG LIVES DRIVE  
APRIL 28 - MAY 1, 2008

**Your community needs your company—and you need your community.** This Mother's Day, HomeAid Orange County in partnership with the Children & Families Commission of Orange County is making it easy for you to give back in a big way with its first-annual Mother's Day Essentials for Young Lives Drive. Mothers and children are the fastest-growing segment of the homeless population. With just a moment of your time, you can help HomeAid and its partners provide essentials for those who need assistance most.

Share this with your associates and employees and make an impression that will last a lifetime. Simply bring one or more of the following to HomeAid between Monday, April 28 and Thursday, May 1, 2008.

#### Essentials Needed:

**Diapers (sizes newborn to toddler) • Baby wipes • Baby food  
Baby formula • Baby bottles • Baby products (wash, lotion, etc.)**

Donations are also conveniently accepted online at [babiesrus.com](http://babiesrus.com). You may also arrange to have your company's donations picked up at your office by one of our team members.

#### Drop Off Locations:

**HomeAid Orange County**  
17744 Sky Park Circle, Ste. 170  
Irvine, CA

**Comerica Bank**  
680 Newport Center Drive, Ste. 290  
Newport Beach

**Before the Stork 4D Ultrasound  
(3 locations)**  
5642 E. LaPalma #209  
Anaheim  
350 E. 17th St., #210  
Costa Mesa  
4622 Katella #101  
Los Alamitos

**Countrywide Premier Lending**  
1200 Newport Center Drive #250  
Newport Beach, CA

**Children and Families  
Commission of Orange County**  
17320 Redhill Ave. Ste. 200  
Anaheim

For more information, call Carolyn Baker at HomeAid Orange County at 949.553.9510 or email her directly at [carolyn@homeaidoc.org](mailto:carolyn@homeaidoc.org).

#### Memorable Quotes:

"Babies needs can't wait. Hunger? Diaper needs? They need to be addressed immediately. These donations are essential for young lives and can ease the parent's anxiety as they work to get their lives together. These contributions are so important to help bridge a mom and baby to self sufficiency. Thanks, for helping HomeAid!"

**Margie Wakeham**  
Executive Director  
Families Forward

"Our mission is to provide a safe and loving environment for the homeless pregnant woman and their new born babies. We help women parent their infant which includes all the regular daily activities such as changing diapers, feeding and learning how to handle a new born. Our gratitude is to HomeAid Orange County for partnering with the community to make a concrete difference in the lives of those we serve."

**Theresa E Murphy**  
Executive Director  
Precious Life Shelter



In Partnership With



HomeAid

— HELP HOMEAID HELP YOUR COMMUNITY —