

**Agenda Item 8**
April 6, 2016**DATE:** March 29, 2016**TO:** Children and Families Commission of Orange County**FROM:** Christina Altmayer, Executive Director**SUBJECT:** Network Anaheim**ACTION:** Receive status update on the Network Anaheim**SUMMARY:**

In July 2015, the Children and Families Commission of Orange County approved a three year catalytic allocation of \$225,000 (\$75,000 annually) to support Network Anaheim. This agenda item includes a progress report on the work completed by Network Anaheim in their first year of the three year funding agreement, as well as a discussion of their planned work for fiscal year 2016/17. Representatives from Network Anaheim will provide a brief update on the collaborative's progress at the April meeting.

DISCUSSION:**Background**

In 2014, the Commission, in partnership with the Samueli Foundation and Orange County Community Foundation, provided the Network Anaheim collaborative funding to develop a business plan. The business plan focused on the development of a community collaborative that would connect and enhance the capacity of organizations to focus on children, youth, and family needs by drawing on community wide resources. The agencies participating in the collaborative include Anaheim City School District, Children's Bureau of Southern California, the Anaheim YMCA, the City of Anaheim, and Anaheim Union High School District.

The implementation strategies proposed in the business plan were informed by the experiences of other community collaboratives such as Children's Bureau's Magnolia Place Initiative in Los Angeles, while focusing on the unique needs and resources within the Anaheim community. The key first year strategies for the Network included hiring staff, improving the coordination between the Family Resource Centers and Network Anaheim, educating other service providers on the work of Network Anaheim, and continuing to refine Network Anaheim's advisory and governance structure.

The Commission's \$225,000 three funding allocation to Network Anaheim started in July 1, 2015 and required a one-to-one match annually. Over the last year, Network Anaheim was able to leverage the Commission's funding with a \$75,000 grant award from ACT (Accelerating Change Together) Anaheim and the Orange County Social Services Agency (SSA). The funding supports two county Family Resource Centers in Anaheim. This leveraging has allowed the Network to hire and sustain key staff positions and strengthen and grow the coordination between agencies. Children's Bureau, a Network Anaheim partner, has served as the fiscal lead for the grant and serves

as the lead agency for the two SSA funded Family Resource Centers that serve Anaheim. These relationships have allowed the Network and staff access to additional support and infrastructure.

The Network has accomplished the following milestones included in their fiscal year 2015/16 Commission approved scope of work:

- *Developed a Volunteer Engagement Plan*- A critical piece of the long term vision for the Network is to increase parent and youth participation in the planning and implementation of community services offered by Network members. One strategy hinges on leveraging the staffing and support of the two county funded Family Resource Centers, which have both Youth Action Councils and Community Engagement Advisory Councils. During fiscal year 2015/16 the Network was able to build out a youth volunteer plan that: 1) provided youth ages 13-18 a platform to share interests, talents, and community concerns, 2) developed a homework club in which high school students could assist elementary students with their homework, and 3) provided youth opportunities to facilitate community outreach events planning activities for the younger children in their neighborhood.
- *Refined Network Anaheim Business Plan and Strategies* - With the funding support from ACT Anaheim and the Commission, the Network was able to hire both the Director position and a Community Engagement Coordinator. The Network was also able to leverage staffing resources at the two Families Resource Centers in Anaheim through the partnership with Children's Bureau. The Network made advancements against their business plan in the areas of governance structure by developing a subcommittee to focus members on key areas of interest, use of the Early Developmental Index, negotiate office space at Family Resource Centers and the Anaheim Downtown Community Center at no cost.
- *Established Community Convener* - The Network and its staff have begun to be recognized by critical community partners as experts on the conditions in the Anaheim community, existing resources available, and a connector among the nonprofits and public entities providing services. Within this role, Network Anaheim will begin to facilitate the Anaheim Human Services Network Collaborative meetings, which pulls together over 70 agencies that provide services to the residents of Anaheim. By serving in this capacity, Network Anaheim can deepen the conversations regarding the identified gaps in service, barriers to access, and system change. The Network has also submitted a second year application to ACT Anaheim. Under this new funding, Network Anaheim will continue to work with, and engage in coordination among the ACT Anaheim funded partners. With the first year of ACT Anaheim funding, the Network was able to build connections among the agencies funded by ACT Anaheim, the Network members and the Family Resource Center partners. This collaborative approach is geared to better understanding barriers to agencies working together and provide a more integrated model of services for families in Anaheim.

Work Plan for Fiscal Year 2016/17

Network Anaheim has developed a work plan for the next year that includes:

- Leveraging the engagement and coordination role for both ACT Anaheim and Anaheim Human Services Network in expanded membership in the Network and deepen the understanding of the Network's approach, responsibilities, and measurement tools (tools to be developed)
- Develop an evaluation framework that identifies the system impact of the Network

- Finalize and build on plans for physical space in key locations
- Examine opportunities to develop web based support for Network members and the community to expand the reach of services and potential use for Network measuring impact
- Continue to conduct landscape analysis to identify and communicate with partners identified service gaps and barriers

Over the coming months Commission and Network Anaheim staff and representatives from the Children's Bureau will meet to refine the scope of work and ensure the matching requirement has been met. The Commission's continued funding is contingent on the Network's ability to secure a 1:1 match. As with last year, it is anticipated the ACT Anaheim funding will be available to provide the match. The Network submitted a proposal and award announcements are anticipated by June.

Wendy Dallin, Network Anaheim Director, and other leadership from Network Anaheim will be available to provide an overview of their results and plan for the upcoming fiscal year at the April Commission meeting.

STRATEGIC PLAN & FISCAL SUMMARY:

This item and the recommended action have been reviewed in relation to the Commission's Strategic Plan and are consistent with applicable goals. The total funding amount of \$225,000 is available in the Catalytic Fund.

PRIOR COMMISSION ACTIONS:

- September 2015- Catalytic Project Update
- July 2015- Funding Action for Network Anaheim
- June 2015- Panel Discussion on Anaheim

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Receive status update on Network Anaheim

Contact: Kim Goll