Children & Families
Commission of Orange County

Agenda Item No. 8
September 4, 2013 Meeting

DATE: August 23, 2013

TO: Children and Families Commission of Orange County

FROM: Christina Altmayer, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Status Report on Place-Based Prevention Program

SUMMARY:
In January, the Commission approved implementation actions related to Round 2 Catalytic investments including a contract with the Children's Bureau of Southern California to conduct a feasibility analysis for a place-based prevention program approach in the City of Anaheim. This agenda item provides an update of the community engagement process that has taken place, and recommendations developed to date.

BACKGROUND:
A Prevention Services Project was developed by the Commission to target Catalytic Funding on projects that support the development and sustainability of prevention and child welfare programs. One of the funded projects was to investigate the potential to integrate family strengthening in a place-based model. Funds totaling $25,000 were allocated to support the Children's Bureau of Southern California's efforts to develop a model in the City of Anaheim that builds off the nationally recognized Magnolia Initiative located in Los Angeles.

Feasibility Study – The purpose of the feasibility study was to test the interest and commitment of key stakeholders to undertake a Magnolia "type" Initiative within the City of Anaheim. The study included four components:

1. Develop a project statement with input from stakeholders for the launch of a Magnolia Community Initiative tailored to the uniqueness of the City of Anaheim.
2. Test for interest and feasibility with key community stakeholders.
3. Identify key program public and private partner organizations/groups that would have strong interest in partnering if this effort goes forward.
4. Identify initial key individuals who would be willing to help identify and possibly solicit funding sources.

The Executive Summary from the completed Feasibility Study is included as Attachment 1 to this staff report.

Early Development Index – One requirement of the feasibility study was to leverage the data available through the Commission's investment in the Early Developmental Index (EDI). The Commission implements EDI to measure children's early developmental outcomes including the

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following domains of readiness to learn: physical health and well-being, social competence, emotional maturity, language and cognitive development, and communication skills and general knowledge. This population measure of child development is now robustly implemented by all of the school districts in the City of Anaheim. The EDI maps, included in Attachment 2, show the percent of children entering school who are developmentally vulnerable and are mapped with other existing community data, such as the presence of early intervention resources.

Anaheim Workshop – On July 3, the Commission hosted a workshop to discuss options for collaboration and coordinated implementation of services in the Anaheim community. Over 30 participants attended including representatives from the City of Anaheim, Anaheim City School District, Boys & Girls Clubs of Anaheim, Anaheim YMCA, and Disneyland Resort along with Commissioners, Commission staff and consultants. This initial meeting included presentations on the successful implementation of the Magnolia Community Initiative in Los Angeles, the findings from the Anaheim Youth Services Assessment Report, and the evaluation data available through the Early Development Index (EDI) for the Anaheim community.

The participants voiced interest in continuing the discussion. Key input included:

- Participants supported the idea of a project hub with the tracking of measureable results.
- While infrastructure is important, there is a desire to have more community engagement.
- Including an economic stability component would be of interest: both for community residents and for project future viability.
- There was a desire to revitalize the Anaheim Human Services Network that had previously been in place for many years.

The City of Anaheim has now reestablished the Anaheim Human Services Network. Commission staff attended the first meeting which took place in August.

Next Steps – Commission consultant Lisa Burke will present on the key components of the City of Anaheim Place-Based Prevention Program activities implemented to date (Attachment 2) including recommendations for next step strategies. Staff will return to the Commission with a progress update no later than early spring.

STRATEGIC PLAN & FISCAL SUMMARY

This agenda item is consistent with all Strategic Plan goals. There is no recommended funding action included in this agenda item.

PRIOR COMMISISON ACTIONS:

- January 2013 – Approved implementation actions on Round 2 Catalytic Prevention Services Projects
- November 2012 – Authorized Round 2 Capacity Building Projects
- January 2012 – Approved Funding Allocation Plan including funding level of $45 million for Catalytic Investments.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:
Receive Anaheim Prevention Services Project update and provide direction to staff.

ATTACHMENTS:
1. Anaheim Feasibility Study – Executive Summary
2. Presentation: City of Anaheim Place-Based Prevention Program

Contact: Alyce Mastrianni

Attachment 1

Anaheim Feasibility Study

July 2013

By Patricia Bowie on behalf of Children's Bureau of Southern California

Executive Summary

The Children and Families Commission of Orange County has consistently reviewed and assessed the impact of its investment strategies on improving the lives of young children and their families within Orange County. In 2008, the Bridgespan Group was engaged to offer a strategic assessment and recommendations to serve as guide for the Commission's future investments. As part of their assessment, The Bridgespan Group suggested the Commission prioritize the three geographic areas of Santa Ana, Garden Grove and Anaheim.

In August 2011, Commission staff met with leadership of Children's Bureau of Southern California to discuss the Los Angeles-based Magnolia Community Initiative. The Initiative is intended to create sustainable change for families by promoting and strengthening individual, family and neighborhood protective factors through increasing social connectedness, community mobilization and access to needed services. Using a cross-sector, population-focused approach, the initiative is working to improve outcomes for children by creating a safe and supportive family and neighborhood environment.

The Magnolia Community Initiative leverages existing investments from multiple sectors and also uses EDI as a unifying measurement tool for public and private organizations. The Commission staff saw alignment between this approach with the interest of leveraging and maximizing the Commission's existing investments and bringing a more coordinated approach to improving child outcomes through the use of EDI. In response to the Commission's geographic interests, it was agreed that the exploration of this type of initiative would focus on Anaheim.

The Feasibility Study involved four components:

- Develop a Project Statement with input from stakeholders for the launch of cross sector population based strategy (a Magnolia "type" Initiative) tailored to the uniqueness of the City of Anaheim.
- Test for interest and feasibility with key community stakeholders.
- Identify key program public and private partner organizations that would have strong interest in partnering if this effort goes forward.
- Identify some initial key individuals who would be willing to help identify and possibly solicit funding sources.

The key stakeholder list was generated and prioritized by staff from the Commission, Anaheim and Magnolia School District Early Childhood Divisions and Children's Bureau. Sixteen interviews were conducted by phone and in-person between March and June 2013. In addition to stakeholder interviews, Children's Bureau hosted three tours of Magnolia Place Family Center. Information was also gathered from reviewing various Anaheim reports and materials made available from the various stakeholders. Finally, a facilitated discussion of the Magnolia Community Initiative, EDI, data made available

from the Youth Services Needs Assessment, and the feasibility study findings was held in early July 2013.

There are several key entities that have expressed a commitment and are eager to work to bring a cross sector population focused initiative to the City of Anaheim. These include the City of Anaheim, the Anaheim School District, the Anaheim Community Foundation, the Anaheim YMCA, and the Orange County Social Service Agency among others.

However, there was general agreement among those interviewed that there is a need to explore investing in an entity that can provide the necessary expertise to support collective action. Finally, there is a need for common measures and improvement strategies. EDI has the potential to contribute to this, but is still largely unknown among the organizations. Therefore, a dissemination and education strategy would be helpful.

Recommendations:

1. Children and Families Commission of Orange County to convene community stakeholders for further exploration and coordination.

2. Explore the creation of a network manager to initiate local (within Anaheim) coordination of cross sector initiatives.

3. Establish a dissemination strategy for EDI results to Anaheim organizations.

4. Continue to rely on external expertise to support initiative development.

Report on Anaheim Workshop Process

September 4, 2013

Background

- February 2011: Long-term Financial Plan approved with catalytic funding approach
- January 2013: Commission Round II Catalytic investments approved, including $25,000 of catalytic funding specific to prevention services.
- Today's Update presents:
  - Results from the feasibility study using the Los Angeles Magnolia Community Place as a model
  - Anaheim Community Youth Assessment Report
  - Results of the July Commission workshop
  - Review of community needs based on the 2012/13 Early Developmental Index

Potential Model: Magnolia Community Initiative

- 35,000 children in 500-block area
- Vision: break all records of success in education, health and quality of nurturing care and economic stability received from their families and community.
- Initiated in 2001
  1. Family functioning (safety and nurturing)
  2. Health and well-being
  3. School-readiness
  4. Economic stability
- Today, network of 70 organizations participate.

Anaheim Feasibility Study

- What might a "Magnolia Community Initiative" type effort look like in Anaheim?
- Children's Bureau of Southern California led the feasibility analysis which included:
  - Interviews with key agency representatives in the Anaheim
  - Review of local community data
  - Tours of the Magnolia Place facility for Anaheim representatives
  - Development of options for Anaheim

Feasibility Study: Common Themes

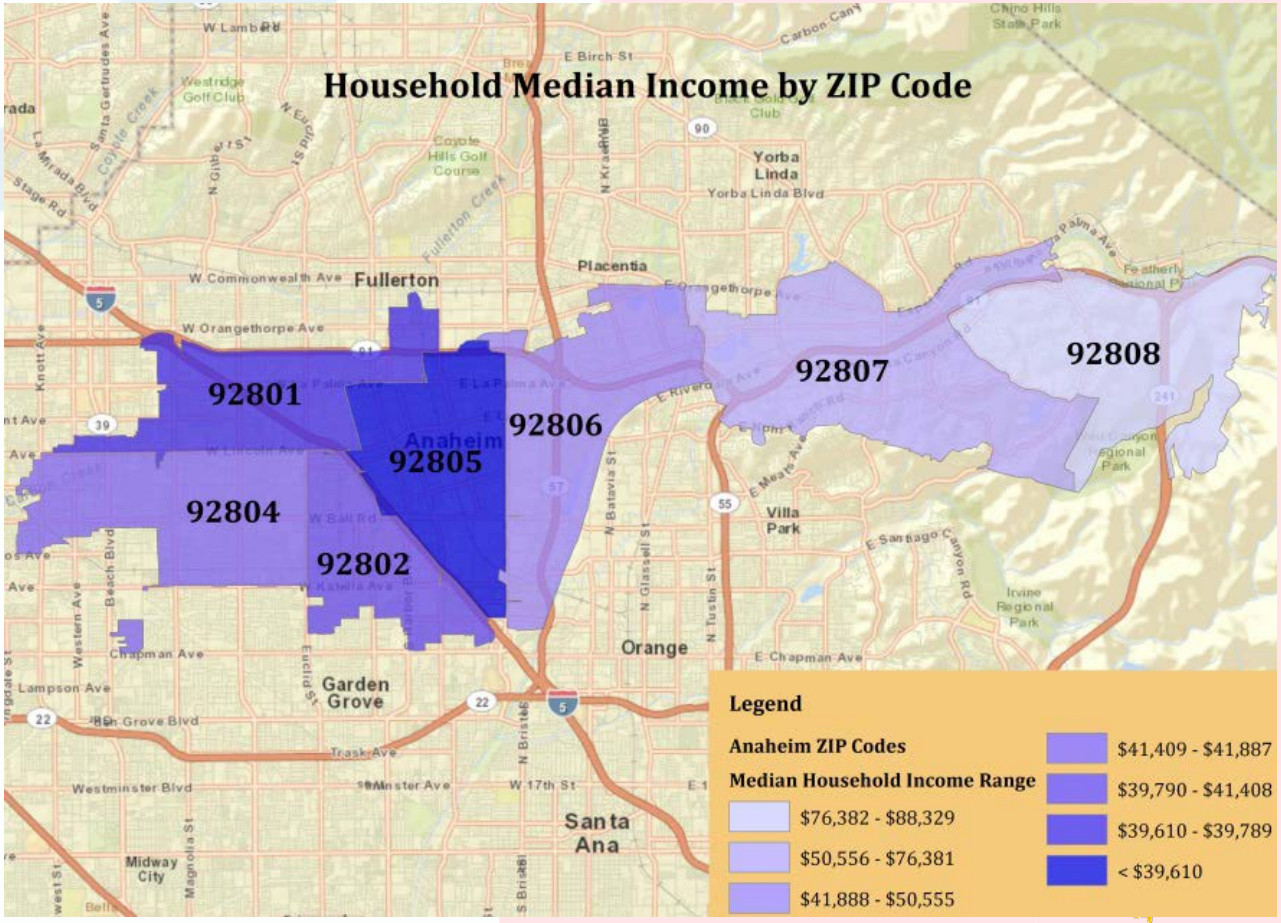
- People and organizations are committed to working together to solve complex problems
- Prevention, early intervention, and starting with the early years are key
- There is a recognized need to support children and youth through their life course
- Several organizations expressed interest in exploring a place-based, collective approach
- An identifiable hub for a collective effort is important: a building is a component but a network of services is also critical
  - Preliminary conversations with the City of Anaheim and the Anaheim YMCA for potential hub as part of YMCA expansion

Anaheim Youth Services Assessment (February 2013)

- Purpose: To identify gaps in service related to the needs of Anaheim youth
- Focus: Children ages 5 to 18
- Tools: Demographic analysis, provider and school surveys, focus groups, one-on-one interviews
- Identified Service Gaps
  - Safety
  - Needs of older youth
  - Nonprofit capacity, communication and collaboration among stakeholders
  - -- Access to programs

Looking at Data:
Youth Services Assessment

- Identified by overlapping areas with:
  - Highest % and # of youth under 18
  - Highest housing density
  - Lowest median household income



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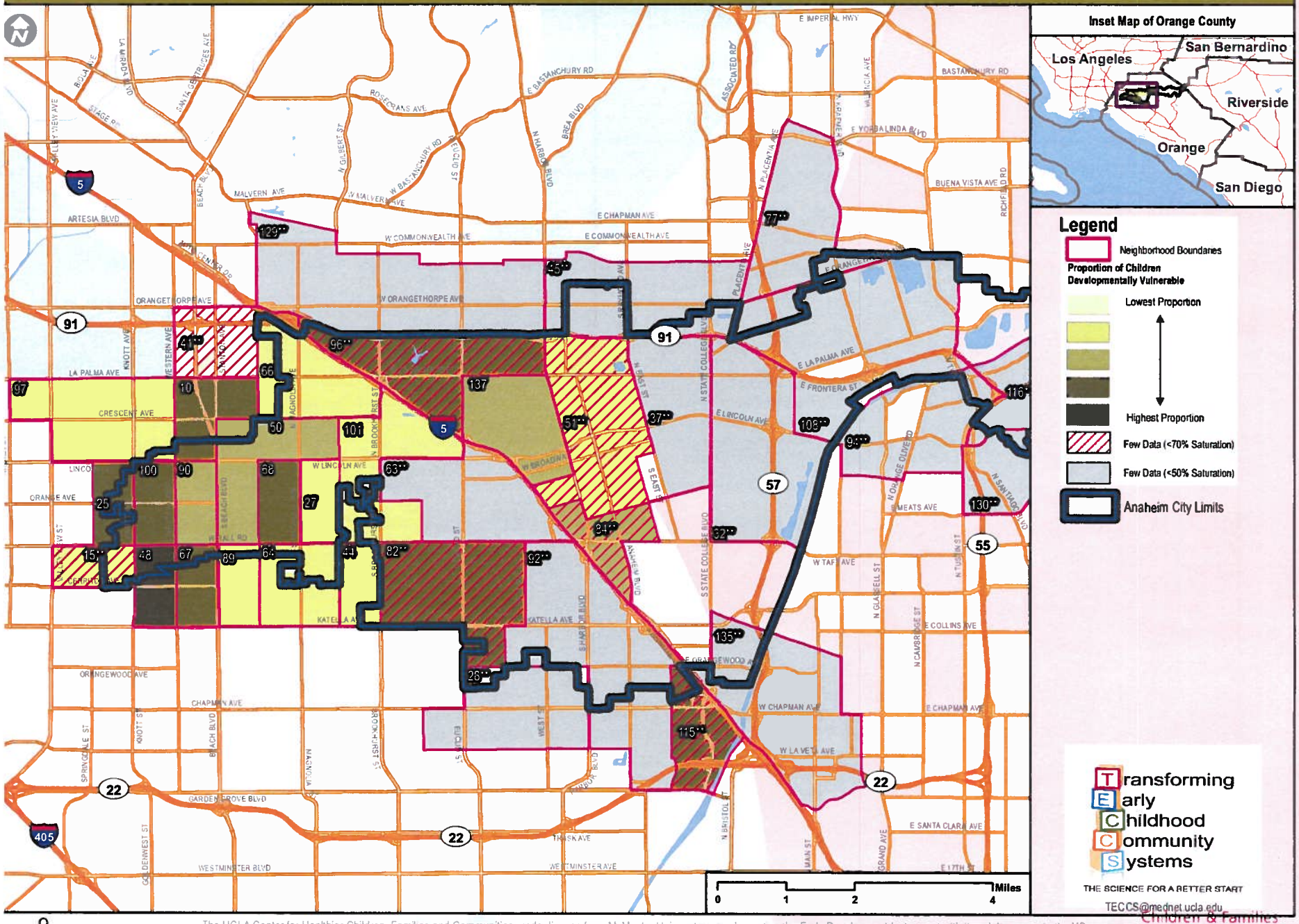
Looking at Data:
Early Developmental Index (EDI)

- Five developmental domains:
  - **Physical health and well-being**
  - **Social competence**
  - **Emotional maturity**
  - **Language and cognitive development**
  - **Communication skills and general knowledge**
- 2007/08 pilot: 1 district/5 schools, 427 students
- 2012/13: 15 districts/75 schools, over 6,500 students

EDI 2013: Children Vulnerable on 2 or More Developmental Domains in Orange County Neighborhoods, Anaheim



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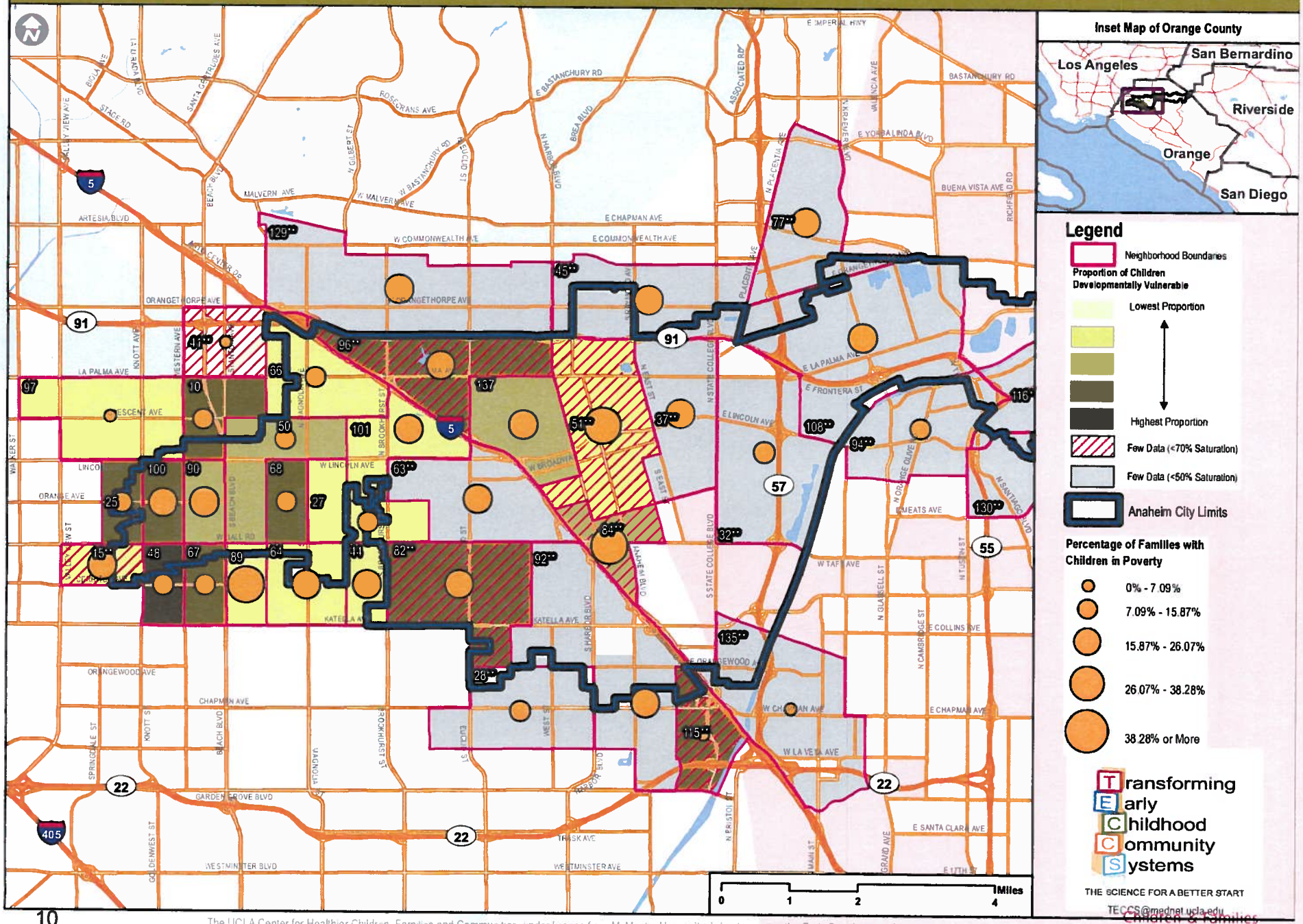
EDI 2013: Children Vulnerable on 2 or More Developmental Domains with Percent of Families with Children in Poverty in Orange County Neighborhoods, Anaheim



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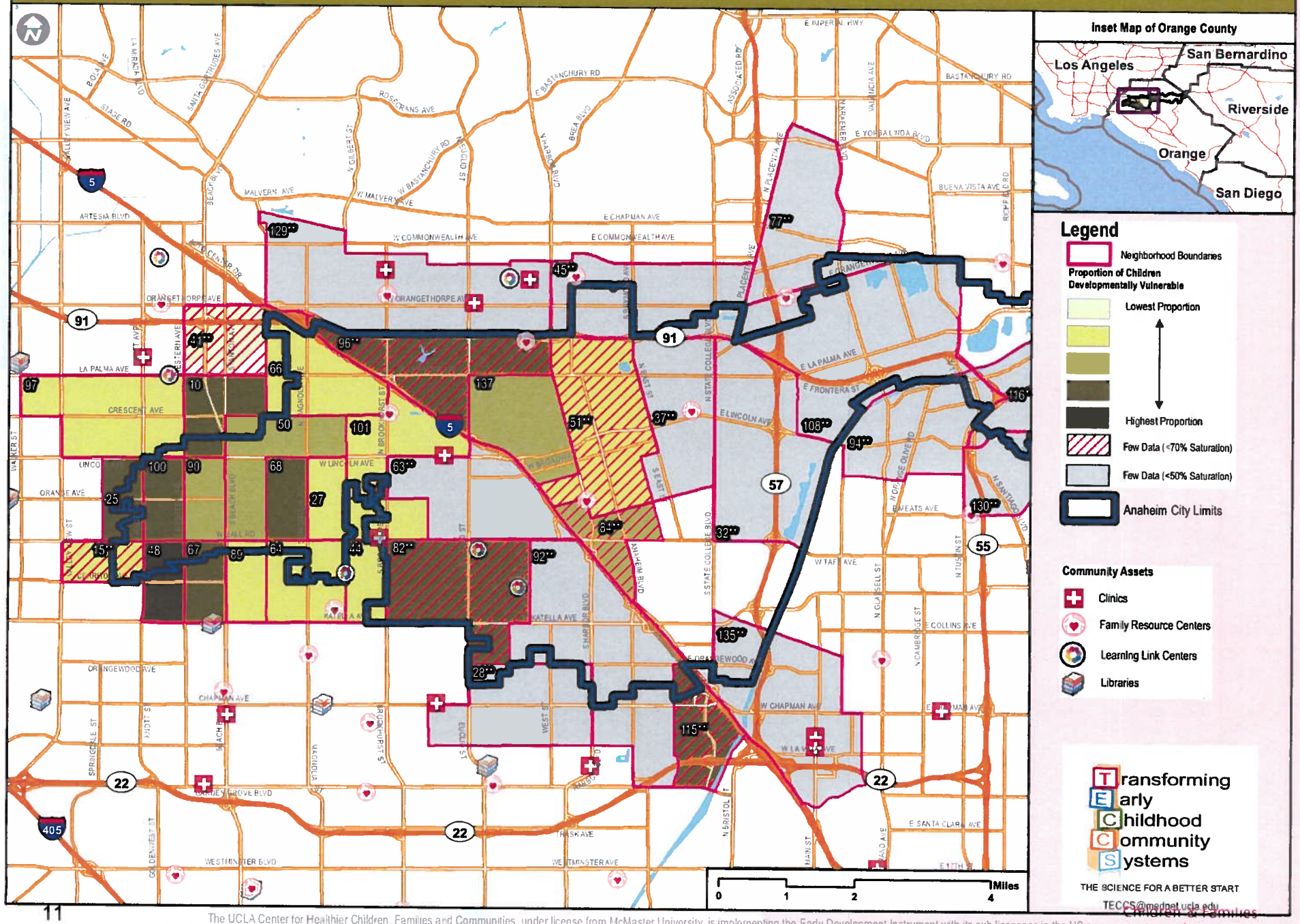
EDI 2013: Children Vulnerable on 2 or More Developmental Domains with Community Assets in Orange County Neighborhoods, Anaheim



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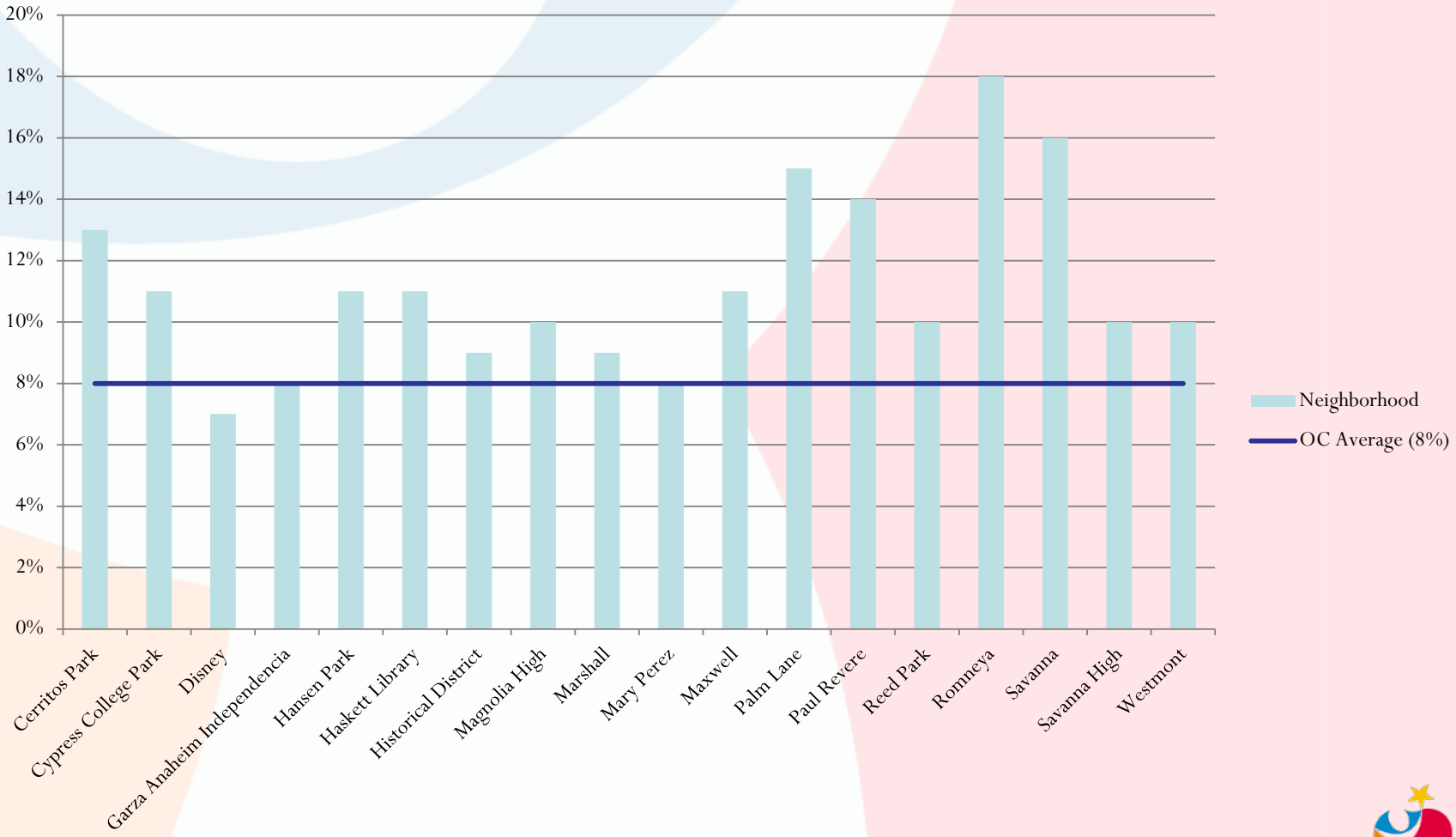
EDI: Defining Needs, Illuminating Opportunities

- 18 neighborhoods in Anaheim EDI with saturation
- Percentage of children developmentally vulnerable ranges from 8% to 23%, based on neighborhood

Physical Health and Well-being: 83% of Anaheim neighborhoods above (worse than) countywide EDI average



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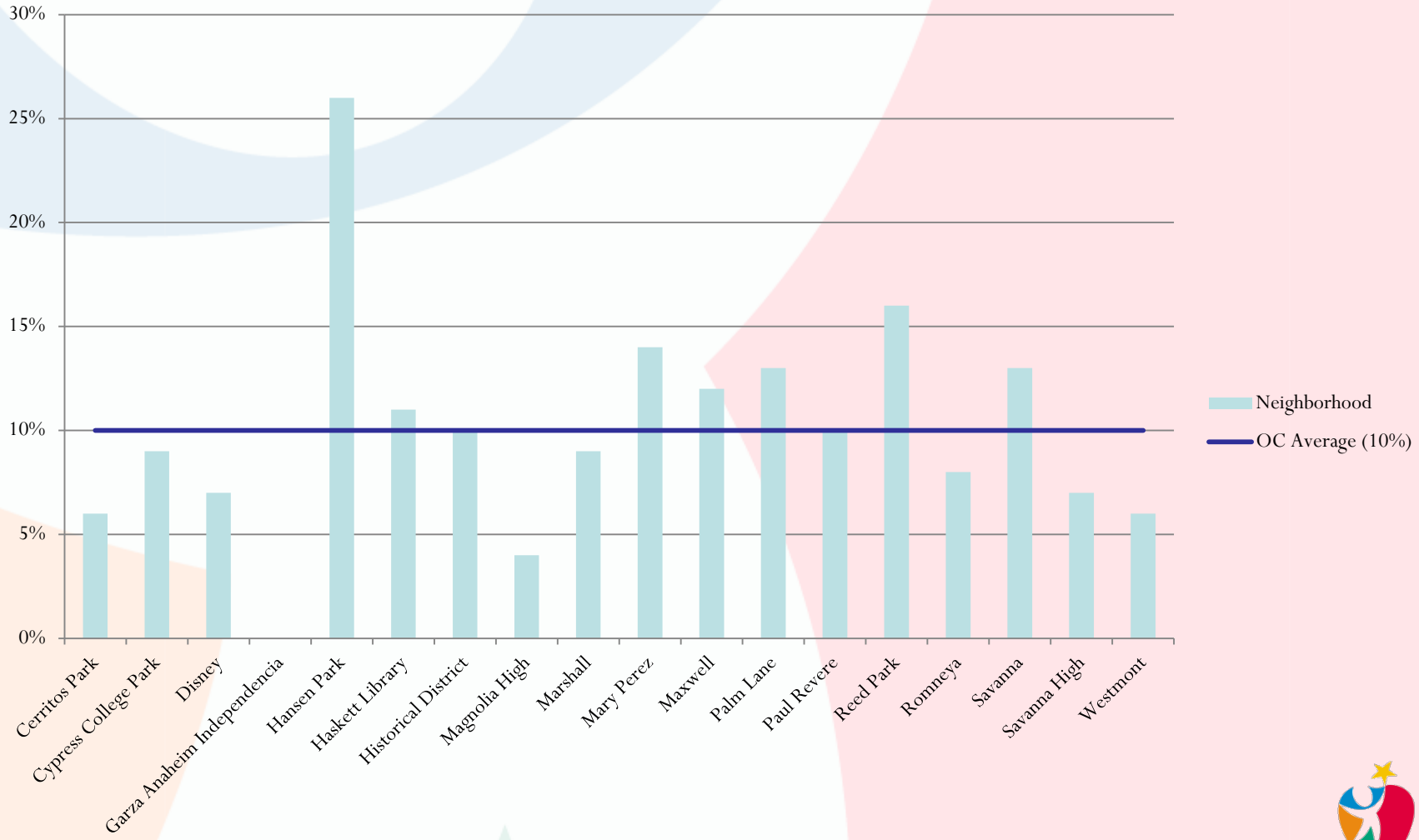
Social Competence: 39% of Anaheim neighborhoods above (worse than) countywide EDI average



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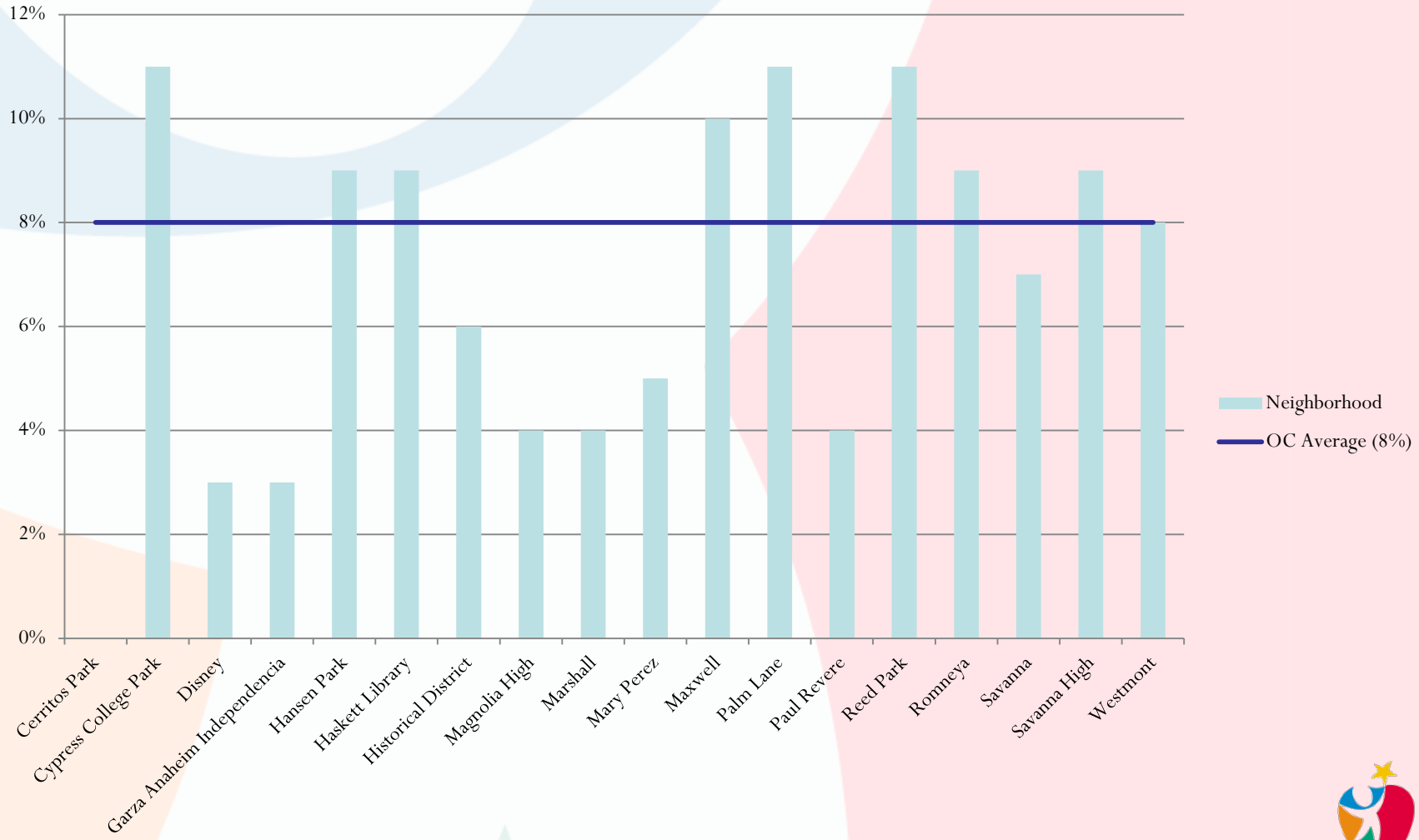
Emotional Maturity: 44% of Anaheim neighborhoods above (worse than) countywide EDI average



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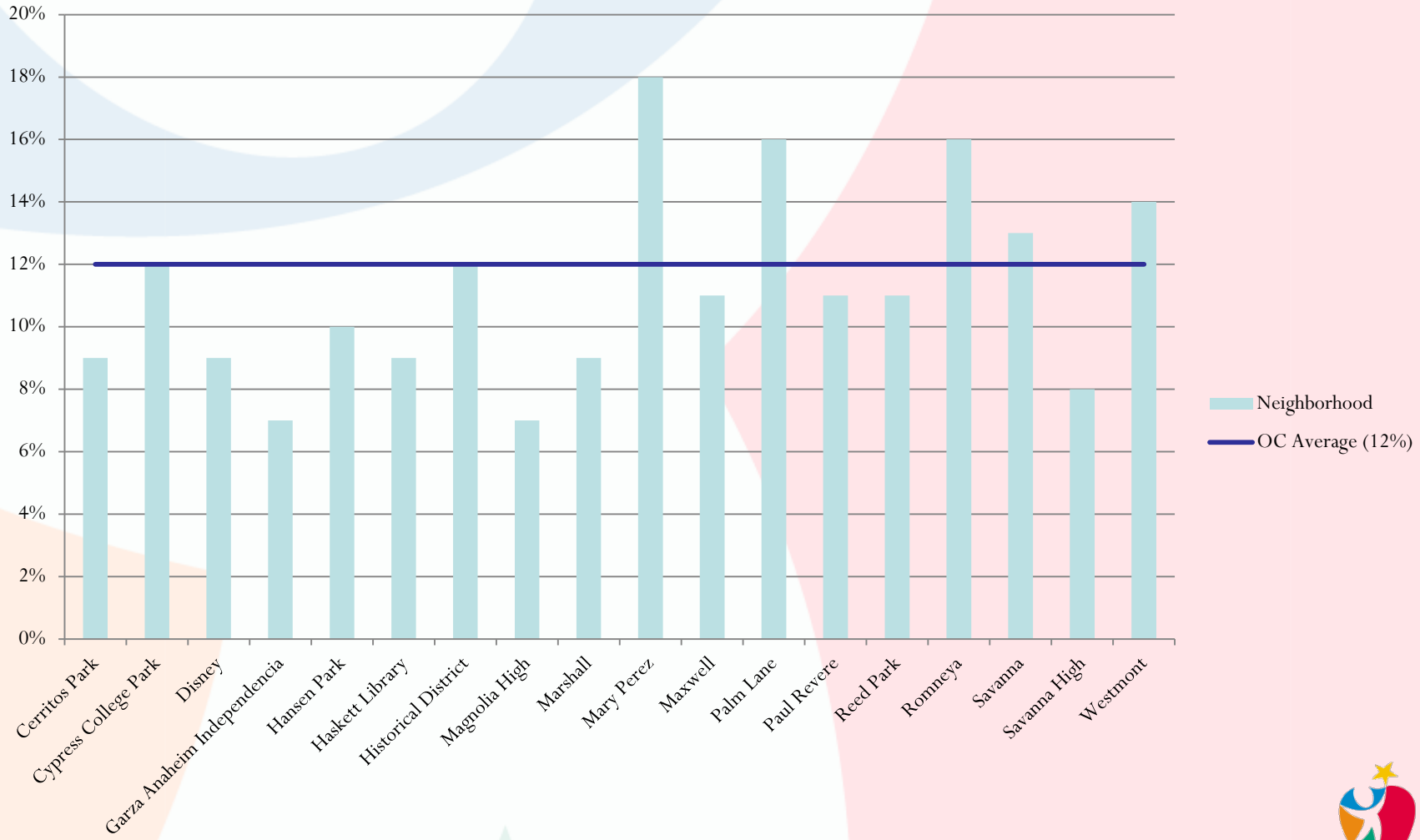
Language and Cognitive Development: 27% of Anaheim neighborhoods above (worse than) countywide EDI average



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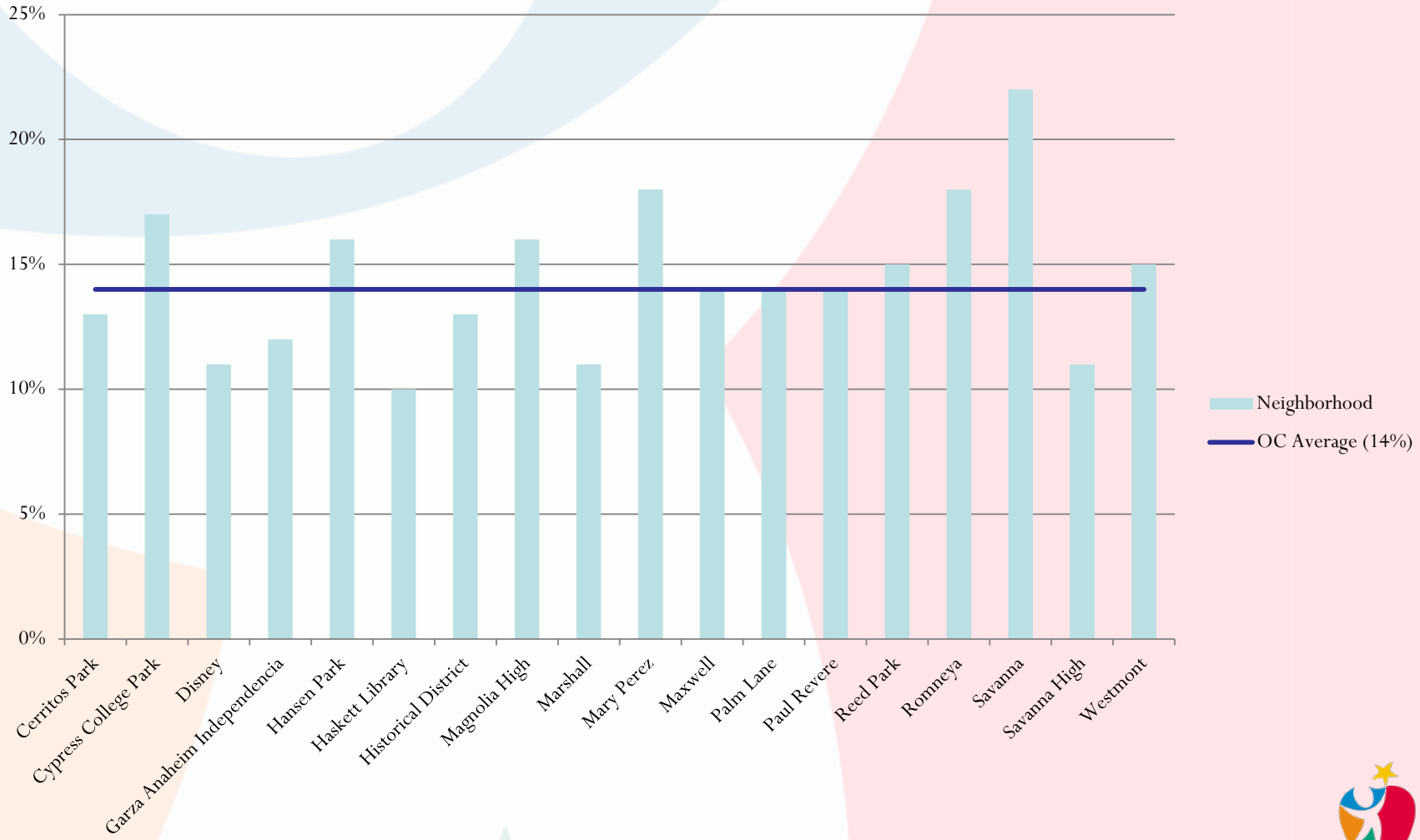
Communication and General Knowledge: 44% of Anaheim neighborhoods above (worse than) countywide EDI average



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EDI: Defining Needs, Illuminating Opportunities

- Helps us understand:
  - The vulnerabilities of children at the earliest age when prevention activities have the greatest potential impact
  - Where the need is, at the neighborhood level
  - The conditions in neighborhoods that may protect and promote resilience and "grit" in young children
  - What additional questions to ask
- Ultimately, helps us determine where and how we can make the greatest impact

July Commission Workshop: Common Themes

- About 30 agencies participated
- Themes
  - Participants supported the idea of a project hub with the tracking of measureable results.
  - While infrastructure is important, there is a desire to have more community engagement.
  - Including an economic stability component would be of interest both for community residents and for project future viability.
  - There was a desire to revitalize the Anaheim Human Services Network that had previously been in place for many years.

Next Steps

- Specific efforts targeted at the 0-5 community:
  - Convene Commission-funded agency representatives to review EDI data and identify specific actions that can be taken to improve services and better connect services
  - Aggressively seek additional grant funding to implement new or enhanced family strengthening strategies
- Continue to participate in broader place-based efforts in Anaheim in partnership with other agencies and funders
  - Participate in the Anaheim Human Services Network
  - Continue to explore opportunities for creation of a hub
  - Continue to rely on external expertise to support initiative development