

11.1

JACK CRIST
DEPUTY CITY MANAGER

CITY OF SACRAMENTO
CALIFORNIA

1231 I STREET
ROOM 302
SACRAMENTO, CA
95814-2904

NEIGHBORHOODS,
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
SERVICES DEPARTMENT

ADMINISTRATION
916-264-7598
FAX 916-264-8329

February 16, 2000

City Council
Sacramento, California

Honorable Members in Session:

SUBJECT: Update on Mayor's Commission on Our Children's Health

LOCATION AND COUNCIL DISTRICT: Citywide

RECOMMENDATION

Provided for information purposes only.

CONTACT: Kelly Bennett, Program Manager, 277-3800

FOR COUNCIL MEETING OF: February 29, 2000

SUMMARY:

This report provides the first update to Council on progress made by the Mayor's Commission on Our Children's Health.

COMMITTEE ACTION: Not Applicable

BACKGROUND:

In late 1998, Mayor Serna established the Mayor's Commission on Our Children's Health. The Commission was formed in response to concerns expressed jointly by the late Mayor Serna and local health care professionals about the high number of children without access to quality health care due to the lack of insurance and/or the lack of knowledge on how to best use the health care systems. The Commission is a collaboration between the City and the County of Sacramento, Sacramento City Unified School District, Kaiser Permanente, Mercy Healthcare, Shriners Hospitals for Children, Sutter Health, UC

Davis Health Systems and the California Medical Association. Additional partners include North Sacramento Unified School District, Natomas Unified School District as well as many other community and agency partners.

Purpose/Objectives: The Commission's purpose is to improve the health and well-being of children in Sacramento by increasing access to and knowledge about, low or no cost health care. The Commission is working to meet the following objectives.

1. Serve as a coordinating body for outreach and enrollment efforts in low and no cost health insurance for children throughout the county of Sacramento.
2. Increase awareness of low and no cost health insurance alternatives
3. Increase enrollment in Healthy Families, Medi-Cal and other health care programs that serve children;
4. Develop a referral process between government and private children's health insurance programs; and
5. Develop a health curriculum to be utilized by both middle and high schools

Needs:

- _ There are an estimated 60,000 children in Sacramento County that are uninsured and qualify for either Healthy Families or Medi-Cal.
- _ To date, there are 5,032 children enrolled in the State's Healthy Families Program.

Studies have shown that people do not access health care due to: lack of insurance, cost, language and cultural barriers, lack of transportation, and the inability to provide child care. Poor health along with inadequate information on how to access health care have implications for children's performance in school and their ultimate success in life.

In September 1997, the Governor signed the Healthy Families insurance program for the benefit of children from working families that are not provided dependent health care coverage through their employers. Enrollment in the program began in July 1998. The program provides children access to the following services through private health providers: hospital care, prescription drugs, doctor and specialist visits, emergency care, immunizations, vision care, and dental exams and cleanings. Families pay a minimal monthly premium for this insurance.

The Mayor's Commission is operating an innovative outreach and enrollment effort help parents enroll their children in no/low cost health insurance programs. The Commission is currently working to increase awareness of available programs and assist parents in completing the application processes for these programs. Families are also referred to additional health services when appropriate. The programs and services include but are not limited to: Medi-Cal for Children and Pregnant Women, Healthy Families, Access for Infants and Mothers (AIM), Child Health and Disability Prevention Program (CHDP), California Kids, California Children's Services, Sacramento County Dental Clinic, Vision Service Plan and Kaiser Permanente Cares for Kids.

This effort intends to enroll 2,500 families over a 2-year period in available health insurance programs. The Commission is working through local school districts, agencies, churches, community centers and media outlets to reach families about these valuable services.

Results:

- Over 1,900 consultations/screenings have been performed with families to determine eligibility for available programs
- The Commission has assisted over 650 families with applications to low/no cost health insurance since April of 1999
- The Commission has helped to enroll 1,200 children in Healthy Families and other available health insurance programs.
- The Commission has hosted 2 press conferences to promote this resource in the community and staff have attended over 50 community events to create awareness and support of the project
- 135,000 flyers have been distributed throughout the City directly to homes of potentially eligible families

Successful Strategies:

Some of the most successful strategies used to promote the services provided by the Commission and ultimately enroll children in Healthy Families or other available programs are:

- School-based outreach
- Media outreach
- Referrals from community agencies
- Insert in the City utility bill
- Neighborhood outreach events
- Word-of-mouth referrals

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

All costs associate with this program have thus far been provided by sources outside the City. These sources include:

FY 98/99:		FY 99/00:	
Sacramento County	\$118,000	State of California	\$46,353
State of California	\$17,090	Other donations	\$12,000
Sierra Health Foundation	\$5,000	Participating hospitals	\$37,000

Sacramento County is expected to finalize its FY 99/00 contract with the Commission in the near future.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS: Not Applicable

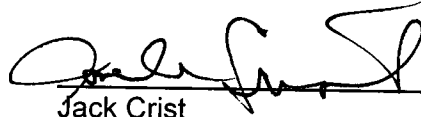
POLICY CONSIDERATIONS:

This project is consistent with City's policy to enhance the quality of life for its residents by promoting positive youth development, economic development and neighborhood revitalization.

ESBD CONSIDERATIONS:

Not Applicable

Respectfully Submitted,



Jack Crist
Deputy City Manager

Approved for Information Purposes



Robert P. Thomas
City Manager



MAYOR'S COMMISSION on OUR CHILDREN'S HeALTH

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Commission Members

Mayor Jimmie Yee
City of Sacramento

Sarah Krevans
Sutter Health Central

Michael Erne
*Mercy Healthcare
Sacramento*

Ed Glavis
Kaiser Permanente

Pat Keast
UC Davis Health System

Margaret Bryan
*Shriners Hospitals for
Children, Northern
California*

Jay Schenirer
*Sacramento City Unified
School District*

Steve Thompson
*California Medical
Association*

The Mayor's Commission on Our Children's Health was created in 1998 by Mayor Joe Serna, Jr. to improve the health and well being of children in Sacramento by increasing access to affordable healthcare.

Dear Friends,

The Mayor's Commission on Our Children's Health is working to improve the health of children in Sacramento by increasing access to affordable health care programs such as *Healthy Families* and *Medi-Cal*. **There are an estimated 60,000 uninsured children in Sacramento County that go without the necessary care to keep them healthy!** Healthy Families and Medi-Cal provide health, dental and vision coverage for children for little or no cost per month. Eligibility for these programs is based on a family's size and income.

The Mayor's Commission on Our Children's Health is implementing a community-wide outreach and enrollment effort. We provide the following services to families in Sacramento County:

- ❖ The Commission operates a local multilingual hotline that parents and caregivers can call to receive accurate information about how to access low and no cost health care for their children.
- ❖ The Commission provides eligibility information on health care programs including Healthy Families, Medi-Cal, Child Health and Disability Prevention Program (CHDP), Access for Infants and Mothers (AIM), CaliforniaKids, Kaiser Permanente Cares for Kids and California Children's Services.
- ❖ The Commission provides application assistance for Healthy Families and Medi-Cal and other programs as needed. In order to accommodate the schedules of working families, staff is available to meet with families seven days per week at convenient times and neighborhood locations.

Please help us inform families of this valuable resource by placing the enclosed outreach materials in your school, church, agency or business. **We would be happy to send you additional materials - please fax me the enclosed order form or call me at (916) 277-3800.** Thank you in advance for your assistance and commitment to our children's health.

Sincerely,

Kelly Bennett
Program Manager

6005 Folsom Blvd.
Sacramento, CA 95819



Phone: (916) 277-3838
Fax: (916) 277-6155

Order Your FREE Materials Today!

Posters

_____ # English _____ # Spanish

8-1/2" x 11" Color Flyers

_____ # English/Spanish (2-sided)

Pencils _____ #

Materials will soon be available in other languages. Please indicate which languages would be most useful in your school or community.

#1 _____

#2 _____

#3 _____

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

City/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Fax #: _____

✓ Check all that apply:

Yes, please send me any new materials about no cost and low cost health insurance for children.

Yes, I would like to be added to the mailing list to receive updates from the Mayor's Commission on Our Children's Health!

☺ Fax your request to (916) 277-6155 or call (916) 277-3800