FaCT FRCs Bring Opportunity to Orange County in 2016

In this issue we are excited to share some of the significant accomplishments of the FRCs from our upcoming 2014-2015 annual report and stories that exemplify the work of the caring FRC professionals changing the lives of families every day. Our FRCs have hit the ground running with our new efforts to provide eligible immigrant citizens with legal aid. As we begin a new year of growth FaCT remains committed to equipping FRCs to continue to bring positive change to their communities.

Annual Report Highlights

FaCT recently completed its annual report covering the 2014-2015 fiscal year. Look for the full report to be posted on our website soon, but in the mean time, here are a few highlights!

From July 2014 through June 2015, Orange County saw:

- 30,632 child abuse allegations
- 5,281 substantiated cases
- 1,020 entries into foster care

Cost-effective preventive services like those offered at the FRCs can help keep children and families out of the child welfare system in the first place. As a coalition, FaCT’s purpose is to strengthen agencies and communities dedicated to promoting stronger family networks, which in turn reduce the risk of child abuse and neglect.

FaCT’s network of FRCs and 84 community partners provide the community with access to a menu of “Core Services” based on best practices that are available at every FRC.

In 2014 - 2015

FaCT FRCs Provided Services to

- 14,821 individuals
- 4,984 families
- 7,637 children

Average cost to serve one family through the FaCT Program

<table>
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<tr>
<th>FRC Family</th>
<th>$2,396</th>
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Low-end estimated cost per case of child abuse

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<tr>
<th>Funds Could Serve</th>
<th>88 FRC Families</th>
<th>$210,012</th>
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Supporting Our Immigrants

FaCT FRCs are focusing on outreach and education related to immigration services in the 2015-2016 contract year. Two private grant opportunities have provided support and resources to help this work. FRC staff are now able to directly connect eligible citizens to legal assistance with technical assistance from our partner the Public Law Center and a grant from the California Family Resource Association. Also, through a grant from the Orange County Community Foundation FRC staff can connect residents who are eligible for citizenship to a series of citizenship fairs and clinics being offered by Orange County Naturalization Initiative Collaborative (OCNIC) between January and June 2016. Our 15 FRCs are perfectly positioned to reach immigrant residents who are eligible for legal immigration relief, but who may be unaware or unable to access legal support. Leveraging two private grants alongside the SSA-funded platform of services is a perfect example of the power of public-private partnership.

As we ramp up our efforts to spread the word about Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), our FRCs are already making head-way!
- **8** events in which DACA information was provided.
- **322** educational materials distributed.
- **23** people screened for DACA eligibility.
- **4** individuals aided in filling out a DACA application.
- **72** individuals referred to the Public Law Center for legal support.

Success Stories

The caring and trained professionals that work at FaCT FRCs see the challenges facing families in Orange County communities every day. Here are just a few examples of the critical work being done by our FRC staff.

**Westminster FRC**

When Edward came to our center I could tell by the look on his face that he had a burden on his shoulders. Edward was in denial. He and his wife had recently separated and he was convinced that she would come back and be a part of their family again, and because of this, he was not fighting for full custody of his children. However, his wife was consistently calling him threatening to take the children away and the children were reacting to the unstable and hostile environment with rebellion. After the high school began to notice a drop in academic performance from his oldest, they referred Edward and his family to our FRC. Thanks to our partners and our staff’s support and expertise, we were able to move his family up by attaining emergency shelter at a local motel while he worked with Mercy House to locate transitional housing. We provided financial assistance for basic needs such as clothing and food, and linked him to Women Helping Women’s employment program, who then prepared Robert with the right tools for his job search. Robert expressed his sincere gratitude in saying “Being homeless has been my greatest challenge. It was difficult to get back on my feet. I don’t think I could have done it by myself, but I know I can go forward.” This opportunity for Robert provided a breath of fresh air after having ultimately given up. Before being referred to our FRC, Robert found frustration in trying to move his family toward a more stable and nurturing environment. He says, “This program at the FRC gave me a drive and direction to work harder. I got a lot of hope back, when I was at a dead end and sleeping at the park in my van with my kids.” This truly collaborative effort provides us with the tools and resources we need to make a real impact in everyday individual lives, and I could not help but be proud of the hope that we were able to provide for Robert and his family.

**Minnie Street FRC**

When Robert found our FRC he was facing the tremendous obstacle of unemployment, combined with being homeless living out of his van with his three teens. Robert found a glimpse of hope when he arrived at the Minnie Street FRC. We were able to pick his family up by attaining emergency shelter at a local motel while he worked with Mercy House to locate transitional housing. We provided financial assistance for basic needs such as clothing and food, and linked him to Women Helping Women’s employment program, who then prepared Robert with the right tools for his job search. Robert expressed his sincere gratitude in saying “Being homeless has been my greatest challenge. It was difficult to get back on my feet. I don’t think I could have done it by myself, but I know I can go forward.” This opportunity for Robert provided a breath of fresh air after having ultimately given up. Before being referred to our FRC, Robert found frustration in trying to move his family toward a more stable and nurturing environment. He says, “This program at the FRC gave me a drive and direction to work harder. I got a lot of hope back, when I was at a dead end and sleeping at the park in my van with my kids.” This truly collaborative effort provides us with the tools and resources we need to make a real impact in everyday individual lives, and I could not help but be proud of the hope that we were able to provide for Robert and his family.

**El Modena FRC**

Lily first became engaged with the El Modena FRC back in high school when her sister recommended that she became involved with their teen program. This cultivated in Lily serving as a volunteer for the FRC for four years, where she found the work she was able to accomplish deeply satisfying. She expressed, “I was literate and bilingual and it was so easy to use the skills that came so naturally to me to make an impact in someone’s life.” After high school, Lily made it to Cal State Fullerton. From her first steps on campus, Lily knew that she wanted to use the education she was to acquire over the span of her college career to continue doing the work she fell in love with at the FRC. After graduating with her degree in business she found an opening at the FRC and, without hesitation, she applied for the position. Lily now works in case management with El Modena, and is able to use her education and skills to continue her impact. When I asked her why she felt such a strong desire to return she responded in saying “I missed it. I love getting here every day and having a new opportunity to help someone.”
A Fond Farewell to Jyothi Atluri

Jyothi Atluri has been a driving force behind the FaCT platform for most of her career. In her 23 years with Orange County, Jyothi has spent 14 of them working within the FaCT network. Both as a leader and Program Coordinator she has lent to the FaCT platform a determination and vision that has positioned FaCT to be a leader in the prevention effort in Orange County. She expresses this vision in saying “My dream was not only to expand the FRC network, but also to develop a prevention network that reached beyond FaCT by connecting all of the agencies throughout Orange County to tell the larger-scale story of prevention.” As a leader she has cultivated a truly necessary collaborative environment in which she attributes the accomplishments of the FaCT platform. She says “I love being a part of a team and I really love the challenge of continuing to move the prevention effort forward together.”

Thank you Jyothi for the work and significant accomplishments you have brought to our network and team. For the second, and hopefully not last time we bid you a fond farewell.

Welcome to the Newest Members of the FaCT Team

Brian Satterfield  
Program Administrative Consultant

Brian began his career in 1996 with the County of Orange as a Group Counselor at Orangewood Childrens Home. He has also served as social worker in CalWORKs, supervisor and training coordinator at OCH and a supervisor in both Court Support Services and Resource Development and Management. Brian joined the FaCT program in July of 2015. He has a B.A in Social Sciences from UC Irvine and is currently pursuing his MSW degree at Cal State Fullerton.

Diana Nguyen-Vo  
Program Administrative Consultant

Diana has worked with Orange County for 19 years. She began her career as a group counselor at Orangewood Childrens Home and eventually moved on to become a senior social worker in Dependency Investigations, Foster Care Placement, and Diversion Placement. She started in FaCT in May of 2015 as a Program Administrative Consultant. She has her B.A. in psychology from UC Irvine and her MSW from Cal State Long Beach.

Brandon Reed  
Marketing & Administrative Coordinator

Prior to his position with FaCT Brandon served as the Communications Coordinator for the LGBT Center OC, Marketing, Communications, and Events Intern with the LGBT Center OC, and Marketing and Public Relations Intern with the Muckenthaler Cultural Center. Brandon holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications and American Studies from Cal State Fullerton.

Jennifer Kuo  
Staff Specialist

Jennifer has worked for SSA-CFS for two years and previously served as an assistant trainer for the OC Registrar of Voters. Prior to working at the county, she was a Program Coordinator at OCAPICA and worked on their youth and internship programs and voting rights project for 8 years. In addition, she served as an after school tutor for OC Department of Education’s Alternative, Community, & Correctional Education Schools & Services (ACCESS) program. Jennifer Kuo majored in Asian American Studies at UCLA.

Wheels for the Holidays

Thanks to the generosity of Trish Hurley and her family and Sean Canova, FaCT was able to provide 60 bicycles to each of our 15 FRCs! The bikes were gifted to families from each of the FRCs. For these families the bikes are being utilized as a method of transportation to and from work, as well as an opportunity for their family to engage in healthy living. The Corbin FRC shared that one of the families that they were able to help was a family of four consisting of a mother and her three sons. The mother had learned how to repair and refurbish the one bike they owned through community workshops. The three boys were very proud to ride a bike built for them by their mother, however, they had to take turns. When we gave them three bikes the mother was amazed and overcome with happiness that her family was now able to ride together. Special thanks to Mary Ann Soden from Orangewood Children’s Foundation for coordinating the donation.
Families and Communities Together (FaCT) is a network of 15 Family Resource Centers (FRCs) located throughout Orange County’s highest-risk communities providing essential family support services, education, and resources. Each FRC is a family-friendly, community-based site that provides access to comprehensive prevention and treatment-oriented social, educational, and health services for all families, including birth, blended, kinship, adoptive, and foster families. FRCs serve as vehicles for engaging local residents and community organizations in the identification and resolution of community concerns related to raising healthy children. Every FRC is unique to its community; services are offered by multicultural and multilingual staff that reflect the surrounding neighborhoods and the families they serve.

In the 2015-2016 fiscal year, we are proud to be supporting the following FRCs:

**ANAHEIM**
Anaheim Harbor Family Resource Center
Family Oasis Family Resource Center

**COSTA MESA**
Costa Mesa Family Resource Center

**GARDEN GROVE**
Magnolia Park Family Resource Center

**HUNTINGTON BEACH**
Oak View Family Resource Center

**LA HABRA**
La Habra Family Resource Center

**ORANGE**
Friendly Center – Orange Family Resource Center
El Modena Family Resource Center

**PLACENTIA**
Friendly Center – Placentia Family Resource Center

**SANTA ANA**
Corbin Family Resource Center
Minnie Street Family Resource Center

**SOUTH COUNTY**
South Orange County Family Resource Center
Community Health Enrichment Collaborative (CHEC) Family Resource Center

**STANTON**
Stanton Family Resource Center

**WESTMINSTER**
Westminster Family Resource Center

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**Our Vision**
Is that all our children grow up in stable, nurturing families and safe, supportive communities which promote healthy development and provide opportunities for children, youth, and adults to achieve their full potential as caring, responsible, and productive members of society.

**Our Mission**
Is to identify and promote promising and best practices, train, fund, and advocate for Family Resource Centers (FRCs) to be Orange County’s community-based platform for prevention activities and family support services.

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### Core FRC Services
Offered at all FRCs

- Counseling
- Parenting Education
- Family Support Services
- Domestic Violence Personal Empowerment Program
- Information and Referral Services
- Comprehensive Case Management Team Services
- Out of School Time Youth Programs
- Time-Limited Family Reunification Family Fun Activities
- Adoption & Promotion Services

### Additional FRC Services
Offered at participating FRCs

- Family Health & Wellness
- Family Economics & Self-Sufficiency
- Child Development Activities
- Emergency Assistance
- Family Literacy & Education

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