



Orange County Superintendent of Schools
2003 Report
County Service Coordination Plan Annual Review
California School Age Families Education
(Cal-SAFE)

Date: October 27, 2003

County: Orange

Authorized Signature:

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Orange County Department of Education

1. Review Process

The Orange County Superintendent of Schools (Superintendent), on behalf of the Orange County Child Care and Development Planning Council (Council), solicited input from teen parent advocates and service providers to assist in the Cal-SAFE Plan Annual Review. District school nurses, school readiness coordinators, and Alternative Community and Correctional Education Schools and Services (ACCESS) Program principals were added to this year's list of invitees. A meeting was convened on September 26, 2003 for school district and community representatives to review the Plan. (See Attachment 3 for attendees.) E-mail feedback was accepted for interested parties who could not attend the meeting.

The meeting engaged 17 participants in small group discussion of Plan items #4 - #8; which included educational alternatives, child care and development services for children of teen parents, service gaps and overlaps, and solutions to providing adequate support services for teen parents. Participants compared past reviews and offered new ideas for the current review. Recommendations were recorded and shared with the entire group.

A panel was present at the meeting to provide updated local resources for teen parents. Representatives from the Orange County Department of Education Child Care Services Alternative Payment Program, CA First 5 Public Education Program, and the Orange County School Readiness Initiative provided brochures, offered outreach opportunities, and raised participant awareness. The County of Orange Health Care Agency provided pertinent data concerning teen parent incidence of live births. The participants had a strong interest in resources for teen parents. Future meetings were discussed to continue moving toward accomplishing the goals of the plan.

2. Updates/Modified Components of the Original Plan

Attachment 1: Number of Births to Teenage Orange County Residents by City 2001 & 2002 (Ages 10 -18 Years)

Attachment 2: Number of Low Birth Weight Births Among Teenage Orange County Residents by City 2001 & 2002 (Ages 10 - 18 Years; <2,500 g)

2. Updates/Modified Components of the Original Plan (Continued)

The following information was discussed as relevant to updating the Plan.

QUESTION 4: Educational Alternatives for Pregnant and Parenting Teens

The following are additional barriers and limiting factors of concern.

- Current and updated information on educational alternatives is not readily available or accessible for teen parents
- Difficult for teen parents to be able to work around welfare-to-work guidelines and attend school
- Needs to be more emphasis on educational alternatives and support for middle income or high income teen parents, high performing teen parents or college-bound teen parents
- Support and educational alternatives are focused too heavily on low income teen parents

QUESTION 5: Child Care and Development Resources for the Child(ren) of Teen Parents

- Children and Families Commission of Orange County (Proposition 10) programs that target children ages birth-5
- County-sponsored low-cost or no cost health and mental health resources for mental development
- Nurse-Family Partnership – a program following young mother and child throughout the first two years of child's life
- Family Child Care Providers in zip codes where teen parenting programs exist

QUESTION 6: Public and Private Resources Providing Support for Pregnant and Parenting Teens

- County-sponsored health and mental health resources
- Orange County School Readiness Coordinator
- Services for Special Education Students
- Homeless Prevention Coordinator
- Volunteer Tutors
- Outreach Teachers
- Alternative Community and Correctional Education Schools and Services (ACCESS) Program

QUESTION 7: Gaps and Overlaps in Education and Support Services

- Currently no overlap in support services for teen parents
- No one is currently responsible for initiating collaboration among agencies who can offer services to teen parents
- Need mapping of current resources for teen parents
- Lack of programs serving Special Education, ELD, and college-bound students
- No hand holder to help teen parents navigate through system and access services
- Cal-SAFE funding not available for new agencies
- Need increased Cal-SAFE funding for existing programs
- Lack of medical support services for pregnant and parenting teens

2. Updates/Modified Components of the Original Plan (Continued)

QUESTION 8: Proposed Strategies to Address Gaps and Overlaps in Educational and Support Services

- Work with the agencies responsible for preparation of the Orange County Conditions of Children Report 2004 to incorporate research and statistics relating to children of teen parents
- Collaborate with Children and Families Commission of Orange County (Prop 10)
- Link teen parent programs with Prop 10 School Readiness Coordinators/Programs
- Request Child Care Planning and Development Council address the needs of teen parents
- Expand Cal-SAFE review group to include the following
 - Colleges
 - Orange County Homeless Prevention Coordinator
 - Head Start
 - Faith-Based Programs
 - Child Welfare and Attendance
 - Teen Parents
 - School Counselors
- Write capacity building grants geared toward facilitating collaboration between interested agencies to provide a more integrated system of support for teen parents
- Collaborate with California Alliance Concerned with School Age Parenting and Pregnancy Prevention (CAC SAP) to receive a list of statewide programs that support teen parents

3. Attached Documentation of Agencies and/or Programs Participating in the Review

Attachment 3: Mailing List of Invitees

Attachment 4: Letter of Invitation to September 26, 2003 Meeting

Attachment 5: Attendee Sign-in Sheet of September 26, 2003 Meeting

4. Contact Information

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