



EARLY
CHILDHOOD
OC

Community-Based Organizations and Early Childhood

**BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS TO
ENSURE WELL-BEING FOR ALL!**



As a society, we have ignored investing in early childhood, which has created serious economic and social issues.

When we fail to connect families with young children to community-based services, our county health and well-being suffers.

INCREASED MENTAL ILLNESS AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE:

Hospitalization rates of children experiencing these conditions rose from 16.7 to 25.4 per 10,000 children (from 2008 to 2017)

HIGHER POVERTY RATE:

In the last 10 years, child poverty increased by 3%

MORE HOMELESSNESS:

The percent of children insecurely housed rose from 3.4% to 6.0% (from 2008 to 2018)

FEWER FOSTER PLACEMENTS:

The number of children placed in permanent homes from foster care within the last 12 months dropped 2.3%

Early Childhood OC is a community collaborative that was formed to develop Orange County's Early Childhood Policy Framework to ensure that young children reach their developmental potential and are ready to succeed in school and life. Visit www.earlychildhoodoc.org for more information.

The solution

Identify barriers that prevent families from accessing services and promote policies and practices that ensure equitable access to services for all.

What you can do

- Utilize the Early Childhood Policy Framework to identify policies and practices which support the access, quality and equity of services
- Identify and eliminate barriers
- Build workforce capacity to deliver high quality, evidence-based practices
- Make data-informed decisions
- Encourage public-private partnerships to ensure sustainable funding
- Embed continuous quality improvement in programming and services
- Focus on programs and services which promote family resiliency, create quality early learning opportunities and provide health and development screenings for early intervention



We can work with your community-based organization to prioritize early childhood and ensure that all children and families living within your community have equitable opportunities to thrive.

TAKE ACTION!

Contact: info@earlychildhoodoc.org
Visit www.earlychildhoodoc.org

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND RESOURCES, VISIT:

<https://earlychildhoodoc.org/community-action/community-sector>

SOURCES:

1) Orange County Community Indicators Report, 2019

2) Conditions of Children in Orange County Report, 2019

3) Building our Future: Supporting Community-Based Early Childhood Initiatives, Child Trends, 2017



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Partnering for thriving communities