Families and Communities Together (FaCT) Orange County works to strengthen prevention and intervention services designed to reduce the risk of child abuse and neglect. The FaCT network of 15 Family Resource Centers serves more than 15,000 residents of Orange County each year through services that promote stronger family systems. More than 82 community partner agencies participate in this network.

Hello Fall!

The FaCT team has been working tirelessly to develop a training schedule that will be beneficial to you. In October, we held an overview of County of Orange Social Services Agency’s “Children and Family Services.” We accommodated as many schedules as possible by holding two sessions on different days. Our November training was focused on Safety Organized Practice and was of particular value to therapists and all FRC staff.

There have also been new updates to the FaCT website. We hope this continues to be a tool you visit as a resource on all things FaCT.

2018-2019 FaCT Annual Report

FaCT is celebrating 25 years of strengthening families in Orange County. Our vision is to ensure all of our children grow up in stable, nurturing families, and safe, supportive communities. Many programs and initiatives are designed to help children and families after abuse occurs. FaCT employs evidence-based prevention tools to help strengthen families and prevent abuse before it begins. Learn more about how FaCT works in the community by reviewing our Annual Report.

View the full report at: factoc.org/annual-report
**Success Story: Halloween Safety Event**

On Tuesday, October 29th, 2019 the Youth Action Councils (YAC) and the Community Engagement Advisory Committee (CEAC) from Family Oasis & Anaheim Harbor Family Resource Centers held its Annual Halloween Safety Event for families in the City of Anaheim. The two-hour long event included 10 different games and community resource booths that focused on sharing services available in the community and safety tips for over 100 participants. Safety tips included: plan and review your walk, the importance of walking in groups as teens, checking candy for potential hazards, and most importantly be safe. In addition to encourage safety, we were excited to have Sergeant Mark Lillemoen from the Anaheim Police Department promote community and Halloween safety tips for families.

This year, in collaboration with the YAC’s and CEAC, each group took part in the planning, organizing, and implementation of the Halloween Safety event. Members collectively decided on games and activities to host for the families. In addition, members were conscious about having activities that encourage child-parent interactions. Games like potato sack race, ring toss and bean bag duck hunt made interactions between child and parent fun, physical and exciting. To show culture appreciation, children and parents played Loteria, which is a traditional game of chance, like bingo. All games, activities, popcorn and goodie bags were free of cost to the community. Furthermore the Halloween Safety event gave children the opportunity to display their costumes to their families and peers. For those children without costume attire, Clint & Claudia, volunteer clowns, provided face painting and balloon modeling. Lastly, thanks to donations, all children received a toy at the end of the event.

The Volunteer Coordinator, YACs and CEAC would like to thank all the participants for taking part in our event and making this possible for the families in the City of Anaheim. This event could not have been successful without the support of: Sergeant Mark Lillemoen from the Anaheim Police Department, Sandy from Anaheim Neighborhood Services, Susan from Dad’s Matter, Ruben from Western Youth Services, and Clint & Claudia from the Volunteer Clowns of Orange County.

*Names of clients have been changed for confidentiality.*
Growing Partnerships

On November 6th, the Department of Child Support Services (CSS) hosted a quarterly meeting, which they refer to as Social Safety Net presentations. Each quarter they select a theme and community partner and this quarter it was Families and Communities Together (FaCT). The goal was for FaCT supervisors and Family Resource Center Coordinators to present and educate over 200 Department of Child Support Services Case Managers and staff about the services we offer to the community. This information was beneficial for CSS staff who are tasked with assisting and connecting their customers who are much in need of resources and services. The four presenters, Ana Fernandez (South Orange County FRC) and Gina Nunes (Westminster FRC) and FaCT supervisors Diana Nguyen-Vo and Brian Satterfield provided a well-received group presentation that was reflective of the overall services, while also emphasizing the 5 Protective Factors and the great spirit of strengthening families through our 15 FaCT FRCs. The presentation was successful as evidenced by the many relevant questions asked by CSS staff and the expressed gratitude for receiving this additional customer support. The FaCT program is looking forward to our continued partnership with the Department of Child Support Services as our South Orange County and Westminster FRCs have recently opened their doors and teamed with CSS to offer co-location space in an effort to serve CSS customers in the communities they live.

Turkey Drive Breaks Records!

On November 26th, two days before Thanksgiving, 815 FRC families received Turkey Baskets collected from Friendly Center’s annual Turkey Drive. On the morning of the Turkey Drive, donors delivered hundreds of baskets complete with all the fixings for a Thanksgiving Feast – some baskets even included utensils and a table centerpiece! Cathy Seelig, Friendly Center’s President/CEO shares, “Year after year, the Turkey Drive displays the generosity and compassion the broader Orange County community has for local families in need.”

The number of donated baskets increases every year, and this year broke last year’s record, with a few businesses like Enterprise Rent-a-Car, Golden State Water, and EEC Environmental donating Turkey Baskets by the truckload. But before the frozen turkeys have the chance to thaw, Friendly Center distributes each donated basket through same-day events at Friendly Center Orange FRC, Friendly Center Placentia FRC, and Stanton FRC. For many FRC families the Turkey Basket is more than meal, it’s an opportunity to create positive memories with loved ones; all thanks to the generosity of a caring community.
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 2019-2020 fiscal year, we are proud to be supporting the following FRCs:

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

**COSTA MESA**
Newport 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.