

GUSTAVO ORTEGA

Early Literacy Program/Reach Out and Read Supervisor Agent of Change: Making a Difference in the Lives of Young Children

The Children and Families Commission of Orange County hereby presents the following Proclamation:

WHEREAS, the Children and Families Commission of Orange County is an independent Commission responsible for the allocation of tobacco tax revenues in Orange County that can only be used to fund new and expanded programs benefiting the health and early education of young children from the prenatal stage to age five; and

WHEREAS, the Children and Families Commission of Orange County is celebrating 10-years of funding health and early education programs to ensure that all children are healthy and ready to succeed when they enter school, and

WHEREAS, Gustavo Ortega is veteran of the United States Army who is pursuing a business degree while also serving as a supervisor with the Commission's Early Literacy Program implementing the Reach Out and Read program in pediatric health offices throughout Orange County; and

WHEREAS, the Reach Out and Read program promotes early literacy and school readiness in over 50 pediatric offices that includes the pediatrician prescribing a new, age-appropriate book at each well-child check from the time the child is six-months to five-years of age; and

WHEREAS, last year Gustavo Ortega helped to bring the Reach Out and Read Program to more than 94,000 children in pediatric waiting rooms, distributed more than 61,000 new and used books at community events, and provided literacy resources to almost 45,000 parents and caregivers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that the Children and Families Commission of Orange County hereby recognizes Gustavo Ortega as an Agent of Change and commends Mr. Ortega for his contribution to improve the lives of young children in Orange County.

March 3, 2010

Supervisor Bill Campbell, Chairman