



June 21, 2013

To the Orange County Community:

Today, Orange County just got stronger.

After a long and thoughtful journey, we are excited to announce the merger between 2-1-1 Orange County and OC Partnership. The joining of these two established organizations represents an exciting combination of mission, talent and infrastructure – resulting in a *stronger* and *better* health and human services safety net for the region.

Formally moving forward together as **2-1-1 Orange County**, the new organization will bolster the support system that exists to help our community, both Orange County residents and the providers that serve them, when they need it. Both organizations have a history of making a difference; together, we are committed to making Orange County a healthier, safer, more secure community for our children and families, and all residents in need of assistance.

Namely, the newly enhanced 2-1-1 Orange County will provide:

- Better service to clients through more accurate information and data
- Improved support to provider agencies through more accurate referrals to their services
- Improved analysis to help stakeholders make better decisions about the region's most pressing health and human services challenges, including homelessness and lack of affordable housing
- Support for the Commission to End Homelessness including streamlined entry into the homeless system of services through a centralized process (i.e. Coordinated Assessment/Centralized Intake)

You will be hearing more from us in the months to follow as we roll out changes, put into action our plans to increase the region's capacity to address crucial community health issues, and continue our commitment to programs and services that are critical to the region. To support these efforts, the current platforms of both organizations will be used in tandem until such time as the remaining legal and operational infrastructures can be combined.

The boards of each organization worked closely to steward this complex process, and board members from each agency have come together to form a single united board, alongside six new members who bring a wealth of experience to the governance of 2-1-1 Orange County. Our new board roster is

enclosed with this letter. We also will begin immediately recruiting for a President & CEO to lead the new organization through this transition and into the future.

We offer our sincere thanks to the partners, providers and professionals who contributed so much to this process and whose encouragement has brought us to this point. For those of you who have questions or thoughts about this process, please feel free to contact me directly at [maxg@unitedwayoc.org](mailto:maxg@unitedwayoc.org).

Stay tuned as we continue to meet the needs of the Orange County...there is much to do.

We are ready to do it.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Max". The letters are cursive and fluid, with a long horizontal stroke at the end of the word.

Sincerely,  
Max L. Gardner  
Chairman

Enclosure: 2-1-1 Orange County Board Roster

## 2-1-1 Orange County 2013-2014 Board Roster

### **Chairman**

Max Gardner  
President & CEO  
Orange County United Way

### **Treasurer**

Bill Ford  
Senior VP – Senior Client Manager  
Bank of America Merrill Lynch

### **Vice Chairman**

Howard Ko  
IS Relationship Manager for Corporate  
Finance  
Allergan, Inc.

### **Secretary**

Carol Gefis  
Special Counsel  
Archer Norris

Mahboob Akhter  
Senior VP and GM  
Vampire Professional Tools International

Jack Crawford  
Senior Director  
Allergan, Inc.

Andrew Donchak  
Principal  
Anamark Capital Advisors

Michelle Jordan  
Principal  
Jordan LLC

Dr. Marc Lerner  
Medical Officer for the OC Department of Education

Julie Puentes  
Regional Vice President  
Hospital Association of Southern California

Allan Roeder  
Member of OC Commission to End Homelessness

Wallace Walrod  
Chief Economic Advisor  
Orange County Business Council