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A Delicate Balancing Act

Juvenile Court Judge's Decisions About a Child's Future Are Seldom Easy

A By Pierre Thomas
Washington Post Staff Writer

ATLANTA—This is how Juvenile Court Judge Glenda Hatchett heard the evidence: A 17-year-old boy, on a recent evening in a working-class neighborhood, had attempted to rob a man at a city bus stop. The boy approached his victim and startled him with a quick punch to the face. Then, with the edge of a smashed bottle, he slashed at the man while his partner rifled the man's pockets.

Now, wearing a dark blue T-shirt and a placid expression, the teenager stood in Georgia's Fulton County courthouse awaiting judgment. His lawyer, a public defender, argued that his client hadn't been in trouble for three years and should be given a lighter sentence—a chance to enter a job placement program, perhaps. His mother, standing beside her son, begged the judge for leniency.

Was this a child who had taken a bad turn and deserved a second chance? Or was he dangerous, deserving of a state boot camp where he would be forced to serve time in a more disciplined environment?

The answer came swiftly from the presiding judge: "Boot camp," barked Hatchett. "This is a serious offense" from a boy, the judge noted, who had passed through Juvenile Court before on a charge of aggravated assault.

As she sits on the bench overlooking one of the nation's busiest juvenile courts, Glenda Hatchett has an un-

See JUDGE, A10, Col. 1

JUDGE, From A1

cumbered view of two of the nation's most pressing ills, juvenile delinquency and child abuse. Like many juvenile courts around the country, Fulton County's deals with juvenile criminals and young victims of abuse or neglect.

A spirited woman with a ready charm, Hatchett has the daunting task of determining the future of many of these children. Yet as with hundreds of juvenile court judges around the country, her courtroom is rarely in public view. She agreed to allow a reporter to attend normally closed sessions to provide a window on the crisis of troubled youth on the condition the children were not identified.

In less than 16 hours over a recent two-day period, Hatchett confronted small children who were scrounging for food in their own homes, 16-year-olds who had become veteran drug dealers and addicts themselves, children whose chronic truancy caused them to miss nearly half the school year, and one young teenager who led police on a high-speed chase across town.

The story of Hatchett's courtroom is the story of the nation's overwhelmed juvenile justice system, beset by thousands of victimized—and victimizing—youths. The violent crime rate for those under 18 has grown by more than 60 percent since 1987, even as a recent federal study shows that the number of child abuse and neglect cases has jumped from 1.4 million in 1986 to 2.8 million in 1993.

While the skyrocketing rate of juvenile crime abated slightly last year, young people account for an increasing share of the nation's crime, with more than 115,000 juveniles charged with serious violent crimes in 1995. And law enforcement officials are warning that an expected swelling of the teenage population as the country heads toward a new century may signal another, even more dramatic, outburst of juvenile crime and abuse.

"What are we going to do?" Hatchett said. "That is the question that society isn't willing to answer. You can't build prisons fast enough."

In 1991, Hatchett warned city leaders that in five years she would have seen enough children to fill the 50,000-plus-seat Atlanta Braves' Fulton County Stadium, which sits directly across from the courthouse. The city's annual caseload more than doubled, from 6,600 in 1990 to about 15,000 today, proving her prophetic.

Presiding some days over juvenile crime cases and other days over cases of child abuse, Hatchett, 45, struggles with conflicting and often competing interests. She must be child advocate one moment, planting the seeds of hope in a youth who may be the victim of abuse himself, or may be living in poverty with a parent ill-equipped to take on life's burdens. The next moment, or sometimes at the same time, she must be the embodiment of swift justice.

Almost daily, the weight of her job returns her to the prayer that helped her through her first jarring week on the job six years ago. Hatchett heard the case of a man who had pummeled his 3-year-old twins with his fists shortly after being released from prison—for beating his 2-year-old stepchild to death. Hatchett could barely contain her grief at the time: The twins were in court on their birthday, and Hatchett's job was to decide whether to take them away from their parents.

Her choice was obvious—the twins needed to be out of that house—but the tragic courtroom tableau overwhelmed her. She hurried away from the bench to the private bathroom in her chambers and dropped to her knees in prayer: "God, please give me the strength to move my energy from grieving and to use the energy to try and figure out what to do for the children you put before me."

"I have prayed that prayer over and over," Hatchett said as she reflected on her first days overseeing juvenile justice in Atlanta.

The week of Nov. 18 was no different.

Childhoods of Violence

Of the 115,000 violent crimes committed by juveniles last year, the overwhelming majority, 93 percent, involved aggravated assault and robbery. Juveniles last year were also charged with 147,000 drug offenses. The drama unfolding before Hatchett appeared almost scripted to the national numbers.

On a recent Thursday morning, Hatchett toted a load of files into the tiny three-bench courtroom where she spends her days and unfolded a thick docket of cases. Among her first cases was one involving a middle-aged man who was violently attacked by a 16-year-old boy. The man said he had been walking down the street when the youth stepped in front of his path. At first, the man said, he pushed past the youth and tried to walk away. He looked back to see if the boy was following him, and remembers seeing the boy reaching down, but that's all he recalls.

Blackness followed. The man said he woke up on the side of the road, with a brick beside his head.

"My cheekbone was broken ... crushed. I've got a metal plate in my head." His voice grew angry as he described a painful nine-day hospital stay that left him \$11,614.18 in debt, because he has no health insurance.

The boy's lawyer suggested that the man had provoked the fight and threatened the boy with a cane. He also suggested that there were holes in the police officers' account of events. But the prosecutors shot back angrily: "What we have is a young punk who decided to hit someone who couldn't fight back."

Hatchett ruled for the prosecution, noting that, even if it were true that the boy had been provoked, he had no justification for responding the way he did. "There is no defense of self-defense. He could have retreated," she said.

The redheaded boy, whose smooth face and gentle features belied the courtroom descriptions of him, kissed his mother as he was led from the courtroom. Sentencing will come later, but in the meantime he will remain at the detention center.

A short time earlier, the clanking ankle chains of another 16-year-old broke the courtroom's silence. Atlanta's police chief, H.F. Jordan, testified that the young man had stolen a car and engaged police in a high-speed chase. The ordeal ended when the boy crashed into a fence surrounding Morehouse College. Under the driver's seat, Jordan said, was a loaded 9mm handgun.

The boy turned his head in disagreement and, when he took the witness stand, testified that he simply had gotten a ride from a stranger. He knew nothing about the gun and wasn't the one behind the wheel.

"This case comes down to credibility. See JUDGE, A11, Col. 1

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ity," Hatchett stated. "The officer testified emphatically. . . . Guilty." Sentencing for him also will come later.

The choices before Glenda Hatchett, or any juvenile court judge, are not easy. Incarcerating a child has implications that often reach far beyond the circumstances involving adult offenders. On the one hand, taking dangerous teenagers off the streets is paramount, particularly when children are committing a far greater proportion of violent crimes than juveniles of earlier generations. But while it is true that scores of young offenders are assaulting and robbing in record numbers, it is also true that many young offenders are neither dangerous nor incorrigible.

For a judge like Hatchett, the central challenge is to figure out which type of child she has before her each day. If she locks them up, she is deciding to take them away from family members and familiar settings. Detention not only disrupts their education, but could have the unintended effect of further hardening them toward a life of crime. Plus, in all likelihood, they will be released while they are still quite young, only less educated and less employable than when they went in.

Yet if she doesn't make that choice, she risks turning a child back to the streets where his next act could be more violent than his first.

And often, Hatchett finds, returning the children home, even if they deserve a second chance, is no answer, because the parents of the youths she sees sometimes need as much discipline as their children. Which can leave the judge playing parent to the parents.

That was her role when a 15-year-old boy, caught with marijuana, came before her court recently. The child's mother had little or no control over the boy. He had no father at home.

"Are you selling marijuana?" Hatchett bluntly asked.

The boy responded, "I was, but I put that in the past. . . ."

He is barely able to finish when Hatchett fired, "Are you smoking marijuana?"

"Yes ma'am," he said sheepishly.

The boy has already missed 26 days of school this year. "What time does school start?" Hatchett asked. The boy said 8:45 a.m. "What time do you get up?" About 8 a.m., he responded.

"Do you own an alarm clock?" Hatchett asked, the pitch rising in her voice. His mother interrupted: "I'll make it my business to get one."

Hatchett moved on, now focusing on the gold tooth shining from the boy's mouth.

"I paid \$160 for it," the boy told Hatchett. "I wanted one all my life." Hatchett grows angry with the mother for allowing the youth to buy an expensive gold tooth, but no alarm clock. "He doesn't need any more gold teeth!" the

judge scolded. It makes him look like a drug dealer, she said.

Hatchett, who is African American, reminded the boy that "we have too many black men in jail."

The boy's mother shook her head in agreement. "All his friends are here in jail," the woman added, prompting an outburst from Hatchett.

"You need to cut these no-good five . . . trilling friends a-loose!" the judge said angrily.

Some Common Threads

The juvenile crime rate has soared in recent years, but the reported cases of abused or neglected children has grown faster, climbing threefold since 1980. Recent studies suggest a correlation between these two trends. One federal survey found abused and neglected children were almost 50 percent more likely to have a juvenile arrest record than those who were not.

Hatchett sees the common threads between both ills: poverty, single-parent households and a firmly entrenched culture of substance abuse, among parents and their children. Hatchett must cope with both pathologies, shifting between her intellectual and emotional gears.

Such was the case on one recent Wednesday, a day when she would hear a docket of child abuse cases. Hatchett peered over her reading glasses and leaned forward as the grandmother of two children told her story in an attempt to have her grandchildren removed from the mother of her son's two children.

The woman told the judge she was visiting her grandchildren one recent afternoon when the 4-year-old went to the refrigerator looking for something to eat.

"There was nothing in there," she testified sofly. The children's mother, two months behind on rent and addicted to crack cocaine, had used her food stamps to support her habit.

Hatchett removed her glasses and scanned the people in the courtroom. Tears welled in the eyes of the child's 28-year-old mother. Another of her children, a 5-year-old boy, fidgeted in his seat while the daughter sucked her thumb. The children's father, brought in from prison where he is serving a life sentence for armed robbery, stared blankly forward.

Neither parent fought the grandmother's custody petition. The mother, rubbing at her face, looked tired and worn.

"It is clear that the children are deprived," Hatchett ruled. "But it is not enough for you [the grandmother] to take these children. These children are the responsibility of the parents. . . . Miss B. [the mother], you've got to get treatment. These children are going to grow up not knowing you. These children are not like VCRs, videotapes where you can push rewind."

The mother began crying uncontrollably. Undaunted, Hatchett continued.

"I'm ordering you to go check into a treatment program or I'll hold you in contempt and put you in jail. You have to think of your drug addiction as someone coming in trying to take your children," Hatchett then attempted to personalize her message even more, telling the woman that she too has children. "If somebody tried to take my children, they would have to fight me."

The mother continued to cry, and Hatchett shifted gears, feeling compelled to offer some hope. She told the woman she had ordered a number of parents to get drug treatment and that some had regained control of their lives and, as a result, reclaimed their children.

"You need a hug of encouragement?" Hatchett asked, rising to reveal her petite five-foot stature. The woman appeared to nod. Hatchett made her way down. "It's going to be a different day," she said as she reached out to embrace the woman.

The cases that go before Hatchett rarely make headlines. They unfold in relative silence behind the courtroom's doors. But they are the faces and real-life dramas behind the statistics.

There is the story of a couple who tried to circumcise their 4-year-old son but ended up peeling all the skin off the child's penis. The mother, only 19 herself, already had four children, her first born when she was 14.

And there was the mother, high on crack, who had a spontaneous birth. The child was born in the commode, sustaining massive head injuries in the process. The infant died within days.

Hatchett is convinced the way to change this macabre picture is through direct intervention in the lives of children who enter her court. Detention often comes too late in the process, she believes. And if the society is to deter children from crime, they need programs to help parents to break the cycle of addiction, poverty and other problems.

As a result, Hatchett has implemented a number of programs, including a truancy intervention project in which local lawyers try to help get youths back in school. She has already sought Spelman College to tutor troubled youth and is developing a mentoring program involving the school. But she knows these efforts are just a finger in the dike.

"People are short-sighted and foolish not to invest substantially in the juvenile justice system if they're serious about reform," Hatchett said. "They're into sound bites, talking about three strikes and you're out. My response to that, is what the hell do we do before strike one? We need to be figuring out what we do to keep these children out of that pool."

REASONABLE EFFORTS: CHILD ABUSE, ADOPTION AND CHILD
WELFARE POLICY

TESTIMONY OF
PETER DIGRE, DIRECTOR

LOS ANGELES COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

SUBMITTED TO
UNITED STATES SENATE
COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HUMAN RESOURCES

NOVEMBER 20, 1996

REASONABLE EFFORTS:
CHILD ABUSE, ADOPTION AND CHILD WELFARE POLICY

I. INTRODUCTION

Senator DeWine and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify today on the subject of federal child abuse, adoptions and child welfare policy. My name is Peter Digre and I am the Director of the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services, a public child protection agency which, during 1995, responded to more than 170,000 reports of child abuse and neglect. My Department is the largest child protection agency in the country. Today and every day, I am personally responsible for the protection and care of more than 73,000 children. In addition to providing child protection services, my Department also is a full-service adoption agency. Each year, we are involved in the adoption of approximately 2,100 children.

I have 31 years of experience in administering state and local child protection programs in several of the most populous jurisdictions in the country.

In recognition of the importance of preserving families and in responding to the problem of numerous children remaining in the foster care system and growing up without legally permanent families, the Adoption Assistance and Child Welfare Act of 1980 (PL 96-272) required child protection agencies to engage in "reasonable efforts" to prevent a child's removal from home after they were abused or neglected, and to enable the reunification of families once children had been removed. The momentum to provide "reasonable efforts" was greatly enhanced when OBRA 93 created a block grant of funds for "family preservation and support" under Title IV-B of the Social Security Act.

No one can fault the legitimacy or worthiness of the goal of preserving and reunifying families. Indeed, in California family reunification is successful approximately 78% of the time for infants or 84% of the time overall. However, we cannot ignore the fact that at least 22% of the time infants who are reunified with their families are subjected to new episodes of abuse, neglect or endangerment (see Attachment I, Chart). Further, our Department of Children and Family Services' studies indicate that the likelihood of a child returning home declines precipitously the longer a child stays in foster care. For example, in 1995 only 5% of the children in foster care longer than 24 months were reunified.

In addition, the original problem of numerous children growing up without legally permanent families continues to grow unabated. Long-term foster care without adoption is not stable and not permanent. The Child Welfare Research Center at the University of California found that 83% of toddlers (ages 1-2 years) entering non-relative foster care had a change in foster parents within six years, and 62% had three or more foster homes (see Attachment II, Chart). Almost one out of three had five or more foster homes. Again, long-term foster care is, tragically, neither stable nor permanent, and the numbers grow every day as the University of California found that in California, fully 30% of infants entering foster care were in long-term foster care (neither adopted nor reunified) after four years (see Attachment III, Chart).

Adoption, on the other hand, creates lifetime parents. It is commonly not understood how remarkable stable adoption is. In California, only an average of 14 finalized adoptions are set aside annually out of a potential pool of 15,000, a rate of less than .1% or one out of 1,000.

The final tragedy of children growing up without lifetime parents occurs when they grow up and leave foster care, in most states at age 18, and become fully independent without a family to rely on. This is nearly an impossible task, one that my 18 year-old daughter could not have achieved and one that I do not believe I could have achieved. Indeed, I am 52 years old and my mother still keeps a bedroom in her house for me. I will, therefore, never become homeless, but some studies indicate that as many as 45% of 18-year-olds who leave the foster care system do become homeless at some point.

Based on the above, I am not ready to abandon "reasonable efforts" or "family preservation", however, the law must be vastly strengthened to:

- emphasize that child safety is the first priority;
- emphasize legal permanency and concomitantly decrease the numbers of children growing up in long-term foster care;
- improve the life opportunities of those children who do grow up in foster care.
- correct problems created by PL 104-193

II. EMPHASIZE THAT CHILD SAFETY IS THE FIRST PRIORITY

The word "reasonable" is often read out of "reasonable efforts" creating a situation in which children are placed in danger and re-abused in the name of family preservation and reunification. In short, we too often engage in "futile efforts" which are inherently unreasonable and small children pay the price.

This can be corrected with a simple statement of legislative intent indicating that in all child welfare decision-making, our first priority is child safety. This should be reinforced in three specific ways:

1. Specifically state in the statute that "reasonable efforts" do not include efforts that place a child in danger;
2. Judges, hearing officers and child abuse workers must make specific statements of facts which indicate why they conclude that children will be safe in family preservation or reunification decision-making;
3. Lawyers and guardians ad litem who represent children must advocate only for decisions which are consistent with child safety. This clarifies a significant legal ambiguity since some lawyers assume that they must represent the wishes of the child client even if the child's wishes were incompatible with safety.

The OBRA 93 family preservation and support efforts deserve special attention. In Los Angeles and throughout California and the United States, they have unleashed commendable creativity in the development of networks to preserve and strengthen families. At the same time, too little attention has been paid to well-known and basic standards that would vastly improve child safety. We are left with a thousand pilot projects without a core program, making any definition of family preservation impossible.

The legislated state family preservation and support plan requirements should include specific standards, including 1) clarification that the first priority is always child safety, 2) careful risk assessment to exclude dangerous families, 3) a high level of in-home visitation to supervise children's safety, 4) a comprehensive range of services to increase families' capacities to protect their own children, and 5) partnerships with the community.

For example, in Los Angeles we have developed 28 Community Family Preservation Networks (CFPNs). Families with serious histories of violence or sexual assault are excluded unless the perpetrator can be removed. Community-based networks must visit each child in their home either four, eight or sixteen times a month depending on the intensity needed. Each CFPN must organize 23 key family supports, including drug treatment, housing, day care, transportation and jobs and other income supports, as well as the in-home visitation.

Our emphasis on community partnership both leverages existing resources on behalf of these families and builds a continuing community of support around them.

We have found that these high standards create the best possible outcomes:

- 85% of the time we are able to successfully preserve families in this program.
- During the first three years of our original twelve programs, 30% fewer children went into foster care in the communities they covered. The growth of African-American children in foster care was stopped dead, even as other groups showed rapid growth.
- Despite the implementation of the family preservation programs, child deaths declined in Los Angeles County for four consecutive years, from 61 in 1991 to 39 in 1994.

Finally, the need for good standards for child safety applies to the whole child protection program and not only to family preservation and support. Consequently, enhanced Title IV-E state plan requirements should include:

- minimal standards for in-home visitation;
- forensic pediatric examination for physically and sexually abused children;
- regular pediatric care for foster children;
- a timely response and resolution for each allegation of abuse and neglect;
- background screening of alleged abusers and foster and relative caretakers, including criminal and abuse screening;
- risk assessment;
- training for foster parents, including relative caretakers and child abuse workers.

Our concerns in Los Angeles County about the need to emphasize child safety led us this past year to sponsoring a bill, authored by State Senator Hilda Solis, to amend California law to specifically entitle every child to be safe and protected from abuse and neglect, and to require that all parties in Juvenile Court proceedings be responsible for child safety. As simple as our proposal sounded, we struggled mightily to assure its passage. Our

opposition came from attorneys who unfortunately believed that their primary and only responsibility is to represent the child's wishes, even when those wishes place the child at risk of further harm (see Attachment IV, SB 1516).

Support for this measure came from a wide array of child advocates, child protection agencies and community groups. It was a bi-partisan bill, authored by a Democrat and co-authored by a Republican. Our State's Attorney General and our County's Sheriff gave the bill their unconditional support.

I believe that what our experience with this proposal revealed is that not everyone who has a role in child protection accepts that child safety is their responsibility. As long as that is the case, children will be at risk. We must retain the positive gains we have seen thus far with reasonable efforts and family preservation, but we must strengthen the law to emphasize that child safety is our first priority.

III. EMPHASIZE LEGAL PERMANENCY

As indicated clearly above, foster care is tragically unstable while finalized adoptions are nearly completely stable. A child who is adopted has parents for his/her life. A child who grows up in foster care will probably have many caretakers and will not have any assurance of a family and home after he/she turns 18. Adoption must be vastly preferred to long-term foster care.

Congress can do the following to ensure that more children achieve legal permanency and that fewer enter long-term foster care.

1. Reject unreasonable efforts. Recognize in the statute that there are classes of parents for whom "reasonable efforts" and family preservation and reunification are or may be inherently unreasonable. These include:
 - parents who kill or maim children;
 - parents who aggressively sexually assault children;
 - parents with histories of violent criminal behavior;
 - parents who abandon children in life-threatening circumstances;
 - parents with long-term and chronic addictions.

In such situations, it is usually futile and unreasonable to endanger children by making efforts to preserve or reunify their families. Children in these circumstances should have the right to a safe family for life by being adopted while they are still young.

2. Require reasonable efforts for legal permanency. Strangely, the concept of "reasonable efforts" applies only to preserving and reunifying families and does not address the compelling need of children to have permanent parents for life. It is imperative, and rather simple, to require states to make reasonable efforts to find adoptive homes for children without safe families.

Our second effort in our State Capitol this year was a measure that made sweeping advances in facilitating adoption, emphasized legal permanency and will decrease the numbers of children growing up in foster care. Largely written by the Youth Law Center of San Francisco and authored by Assembly Member Louis Caldera, this measure added to the situations in existing law where the juvenile court is not required to order that we provide services to reunify seriously damaged families. Specifically, the new situations include those where children have been willfully subjected to life-threatening abandonment; children whose siblings or half-siblings could not be successfully reunited with parents; children whose parents have been convicted of violent felonies; and children whose parents have extensive, abusive and chronic histories of drug and alcohol abuse and have failed or refused treatment. The measure also holds that placement of children in a preadoptive home, in and of itself, shall not be deemed a failure to provide or offer reasonable services to reunify. Finally, the bill does not permit children under the age of six years to remain in long-term care with foster parents unable or unwilling to adopt. This measure moved through both houses of our State Legislature with no opposition, testimony to the fact that the public and our Legislature are no longer willing to allow all reasonable efforts to be extended to parents at great cost to children's futures and lives. (See Attachment V, AB 2679)

IV. IMPROVE THE LIFE CHANCES OF CHILDREN WHO GROW UP WITHOUT PERMANENT HOMES

Each year, thousands of youth who have grown up in foster care emancipate to independence without reliable and legally permanent families.

Many of these children face homelessness, many have highly incomplete educations and many will become involved in crime to support themselves. Since we did not provide permanent

families for these children, we owe them the basic opportunity to succeed as adults. Congress should:

1. Declare national goals for children who must become independent after aging out of foster care.

These goals should include:

- a place to live;
- opportunity to continue education;
- life skills training;
- employment or income;
- access to health care;
- adequate clothing;
- availability of records, including educational history, driver's license, citizenship status, foster care history, health history;
- ties to community mentors.

The states' plans to achieve these goals should be incorporated in their Title IV-E plans.

2. Encourage states to develop employment, housing and scholarship opportunities for emancipating foster youth.

States should be required in their IV-E plans to specify how they will target local, state, federal and private sector employment, housing and scholarships for higher education opportunities for the special population of emancipating foster youth.

Some of the initiatives we are developing in Los Angeles include:

- blending public and private housing programs and foundation resources to create 400 apartment beds for emancipated youth, spearheaded by a very substantial grant from the Weingart Foundation;
- using the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) and the private sector to create jobs for all older foster youth. Targeted employment efforts should generate 2,000 jobs this year for older Department of Children and Family Services foster youth;
- encouraging local government and contractors to hire emancipating foster youth. My department has hired over 70 such youth with excellent results, including the use of 30 of them to be Emancipation Assistants to help younger children prepare for independence;
- encouraging blending private contributions with college, state and federal scholarships to enable

emancipating foster youth to go to college. This year my department has requests from 500 of our 800 emancipating youth for college scholarship assistance, and we will be able to honor all of them, thanks to the generosity of our community.

These and other efforts would be enhanced if Congress would lower the age for participation in the Independent Living Program from 16 to 14 to allow us to engage youth earlier in preparation for this most difficult transition.

Our third State legislative effort involved a bill, also authored by Assembly Member Louis Caldera, which required our colleges and universities to evaluate their outreach to and retention of former foster youth, and to assure that these youth are identified and informed of existing Extended Opportunity Programs and Services. It authorized targeted outreach to foster youth in conjunction with public child welfare agencies and required the inclusion of at least one former foster youth on college advisory councils.

Although this bill did experience some opposition, a number of the Members of the Legislature realized that all of us are responsible for foster youth and the State owes these youth what most parents would want for their own children. The universities and community colleges were partners in this effort and were eager to have the opportunities to make greater gains with this group of young adults (see Attachment VI, AB 2463).

Finally, our fourth effort was a bill sponsored by the California Youth Connection, an organization of and for current and former foster youth, and was authored by State Senator Diane Watson. This bill, as introduced, would have created programs to empower foster youth, specify legislative intent that youth leaving foster care have specific minimal daily living needs met, enact a foster youth bill of rights and responsibilities and encourage state and local governments to recruit and hire current and former foster youth.

Ultimately, this measure was vetoed by the Governor because he felt it duplicated existing regulatory requirements. Each of the other bills was signed into law by Governor Pete Wilson and will take effect on January 1, 1997.

We succeeded this year in strengthening California law to emphasize child safety, emphasize legal permanency and improve life opportunities for those children who do grow up in foster care. These measures are models of sound child safety public policy.

V. IMPACT OF PUBLIC LAW 104-193

On many occasions during the past year, I have expressed my concerns about the impact of the sweeping changes the newly enacted welfare reform legislation will have on our child protection programs. I have two items that I believe could be easily remedied as Congress reconvenes for its new session in 1997.

First, PL 104-193, the Personal Responsibility and Work Reconciliation Act of 1996, prohibits those convicted of felony drug-related offenses from receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families. I would submit to you that we do have a proportion of parents who may fall into this category, but who have paid their price to society and who have successfully rehabilitated themselves through participation in drug treatment and have become totally drug free. These parents should have a chance to redeem their lives. They should be exempted from this federal prohibition, which can only serve to raise the odds against them and place their children at greater risk of growing up in the child protection system.

Second, in Los Angeles County, slightly more than half of the children in our foster care caseload are placed with relatives, while statewide slightly less than half are placed with relatives. In California and Los Angeles County, we are well-positioned to implement the new federal requirement contained in PL 104-193 which specifies that homes of relatives must be the first child placement consideration when safe. Our reality, however, is that not all the relatives with whom children might be placed are people of great means. Many of these relatives, considering that care of abused and neglected children also means costly child care and remedial medical and psychological care, find themselves in need of financial assistance. These relatives should not be subject to the work requirements and time-limit provisions of the new welfare reform program if we ask them to become caregivers for their grandchildren and nieces and nephews, and if Congress expects states to meet this requirement. Congress must reconsider these requirements and search for a better reconciliation of these provisions.

VI. OUR CONTEXT: CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT CONTINUES TO INCREASE DRASTICALLY

The United States Department of Health and Human Services recently released the *Third National Incidence Study of Child Abuse and Neglect*, the single most comprehensive source of information about the current incidence of child abuse and neglect in the United States. While I will not review for you the entire study and its findings, I want to share with you the most critical points that I believe underscore the need for decisive action by Congress to make

child safety our nation's highest priority, data which is not totally dissimilar from that I have tracked in my own County.

Using data that includes both first-time as well as subsequent incidents of abuse and neglect, the Study's findings are alarming:

- Based on 1993 data, the Study reflects a dramatic 149 percent increase since the 1980 Study in children suffering from subsequent incidents of abuse or neglect.
- Between 1986 and 1993, there was a 98 percent increase in the total estimated number of abused and neglected children.
 - Abuse and neglect increased across all categories, including physical, sexual and emotional abuse, as well as physical and emotional neglect;
 - The number of children seriously injured by abuse or neglect increased by 298 percent.

The Study found that family income was significantly related to the rates of incidence in nearly every category of maltreatment, a finding that was consistent with the findings in the 1986 Study. Children in families with annual incomes below \$15,000 per year were found to be more than 22 times and 25 times more likely to experience some form of maltreatment under the two study standards than children in families with annual incomes of \$30,000 per year or more. *Child neglect* means lack of the necessities of life, including food, clothing and shelter; while *child abuse* is often a reaction to frustration and stress.

And finally, the Study shows that our child protection systems appear to have reached their maximum capacity to respond to these maltreated children. Despite the rising numbers of children found to be abused or neglected, the actual numbers of children whose abuse and neglect was investigated by Child Protective Services (CPS) remained stable, meaning that a larger percentage of children has not had access to CPS. (See Attachment VII, *Child Abuse and Neglect National Incidence Study*.)

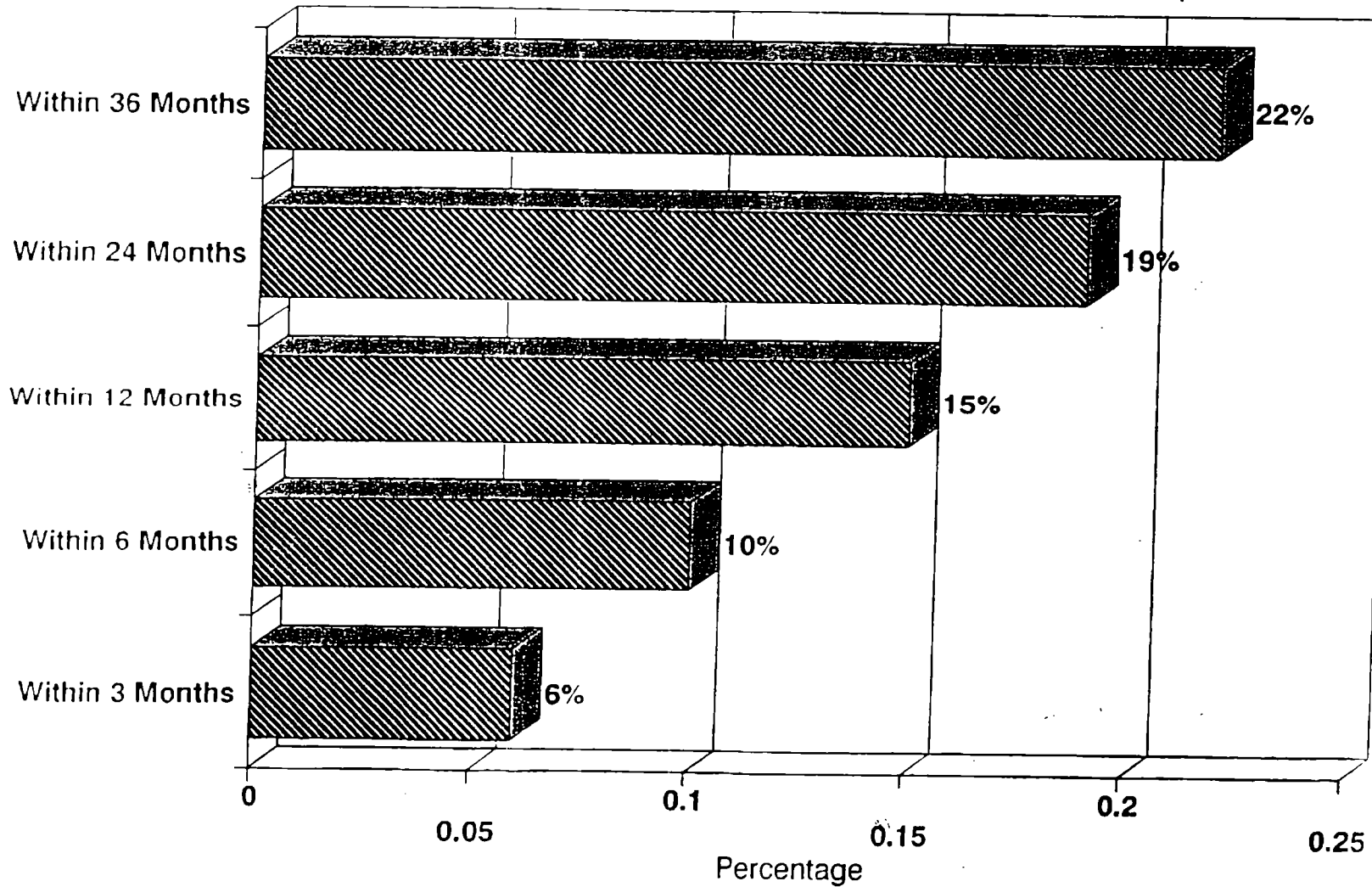
VII. CONCLUSION

The Adoption Assistance and Child Welfare Act of 1980, supplemented by OBRA 93, laid a substantial foundation for child protection. However, the experience of the past sixteen years has shown numerous ways in which the law must be improved in order to increase child safety, emphasize legal permanency through adoption and create basic opportunities for foster youth who emancipate without legally permanent families.

Fos Care Re-Entry After Reunification

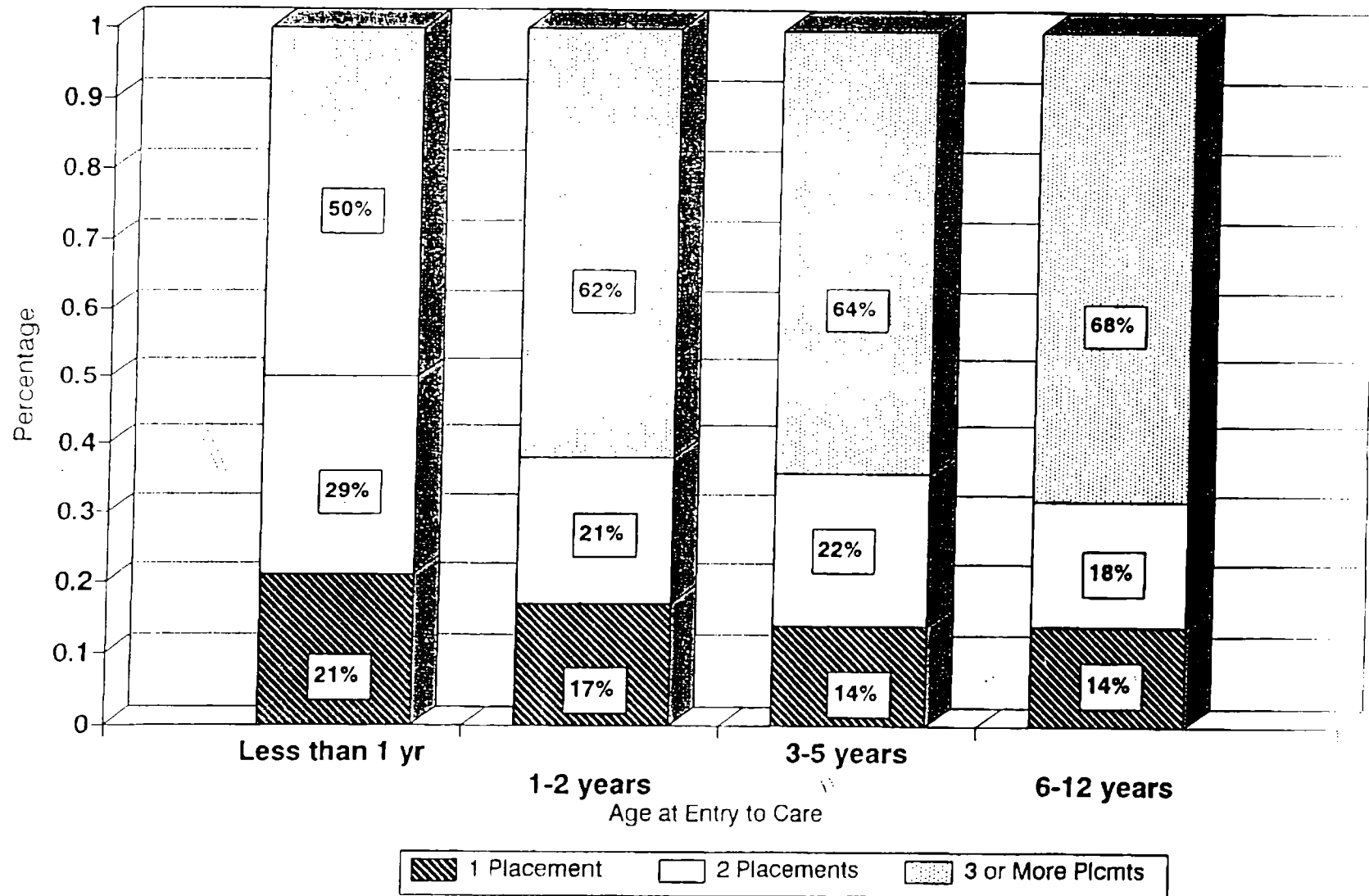
Calif Cumulative Probability Totals

For Infants



Placements After 6 Years in Foster Care

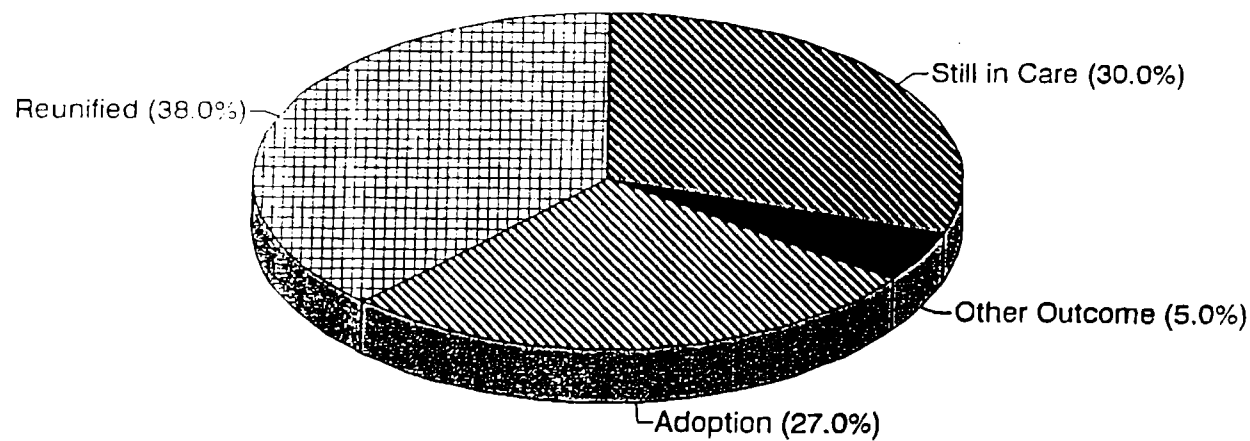
Non-Kin Foster Care Placements



Outcomes at 4 Yrs: Non-Kin Foster Care

Infant < 1 Month Old @ Foster Care Entry

CALIFORNIA



LOS ANGELES COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES
 LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

SB 1516 (SOLIS): as amended on August 29, 1996

Dependent Children: Reunification with Parents or Guardians

Existing Law:

- Authorizes the juvenile court to appoint counsel to represent a child who is the subject of a dependency court proceeding under Welfare and Institutions Code Section 300.
- Provides procedures and standards for reunification of children in foster care with their parents or guardians.
- Requires that the state establish and support a public system of statewide child welfare services.

This Legislative Proposal:

- Specifically states legislative intent that children are entitled to be safe and free from abuse and neglect.
- Provides that a primary responsibility of counsel appointed to represent children in the dependency court shall be to advocate for the protection, safety, and physical and emotional well-being of the child
- Requires attorneys representing children in the dependency court to advise the court of the child's wishes and that they shall not advocate for the return of the child if it conflicts with the protection and safety of the child.
- Requires the court to state the basis for its decisions.
- Existing Law provides that children shall not be returned home to parents/guardians when the court finds, by a preponderance of the evidence, that the return would create a substantial risk of detriment. The bill clarifies that the risk of detriment is risk to the safety, protection, and physical or emotional well-being of the child.

Status:

- Passed unanimously out of the Senate on May 9, 1996.
- Passed out of the Assembly and Senate for concurrence on August 31, 1996.
- Chaptered on September 30, 1996.

AB 2679 (CALDERA): as amended on August 22, 1996
Dependent Children.

Existing Law:

- Welfare and Institutions Code Section 300 describes children who come within the jurisdiction of the juvenile court, including a child whose parents or guardian has been convicted of causing the death of another child.
- Welfare and Institutions Code Section 361.5 requires the Dependency Court to order family reunification services to parents or guardians of children removed from their custody and provides for specific instances under which reunification services need not be provided.

This Legislative Proposal:

- Provides that a child may be adjudged a dependent of the court if the child's parent or guardian "caused" rather than "has been convicted of causing" the death of another child through abuse or neglect.
- Provides additional circumstances under which the court need not order family reunification services, including:
 - the child was willfully abandoned by his or her parent or guardian and the court finds that the abandonment would have resulted in serious harm to the child;
 - the child's siblings or half-siblings were removed from the parent or guardian, reunification efforts failed, and the court ordered a permanent plan of adoption, guardianship, or long-term foster care for the siblings or half-siblings,
 - the parent or guardian has been convicted of a violent felony;
 - the parent or guardian has a history of extensive abuse and chronic use of drugs or alcohol and has resisted prior treatment for this problem;
- Specifies that the placement of a minor in a preadoptive home or with a family that is eligible to adopt, in and of itself, shall not be deemed a failure to provide or offer reasonable services.

Status:

- Passed out of the Assembly on May 20, 1996.
- Passed out of the Senate Judiciary Committee on June 18, 1996, and moved to the Senate Floor.
- Passed out of the Senate on August 26, 1996, and has moved to the Assembly Floor for concurrence.
- Passed out of the Assembly on August 30, 1996.
- Chaptered on September 30, 1996.

AB 2463 (CALDERA):as amended on August 8, 1996
Outreach and Assistance for Emancipated Foster Youth.

Existing Law:

- Prescribes responsibilities and duties for Trustees for California State University and the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges. This measure adds Section 89340-89347 to the Education Code to address the unique problems, obstacles, and pressures that hinder foster youth from enrolling, attending, or graduating from college.

This Legislative Proposal:

- Expresses legislative findings and declarations regarding the unique problems, obstacles, and pressures that hinder a foster youth's access to college;
- Expresses legislative intent that the Trustees of the California State University (CSU) and the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges (CCC) expand the university's access and retention programs to include outreach services and technical assistance to foster youth to encourage their enrollment in college;
- Requires the Trustees and the Board of Governors:
 - to review housing issues and to ensure universal service during the summer, school vacations, and holidays for emancipated foster youth living on campus;
 - to provide advice on ways to improve the delivery of services to emancipated foster youth; to evaluate the extent to which programs meet the needs of foster youth; and to track the retention rates of known emancipated foster youths;
- Provides for emancipated foster youth student representation on CSU Advisory Councils;
- Requires the State University Educational Opportunity Program and California Community College Extended Opportunity Programs and Services to ensure that emancipated foster youth are informed of services, including mentoring programs;
- Requires the State Department of Social Services and County Welfare Departments in coordination with CCC, CSU, and the Student Aid Commission to communicate and facilitate the outreach and technical assistance efforts for foster youth interested in attending college.

Status:

- Passed unanimously out of the Senate on August 14, 1996.
- Passed out of the Assembly on August 30, 1996.
- Chaptered on September 30, 1996.

WASHINGTON

Social Legislation

BULLETIN

September 23, 1996, Volume 34, Issue 42

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SOCIAL LEGISLATION INFORMATION SERVICE • 440 FIRST STREET, N.W., WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT NATIONAL INCIDENCE STUDY

The Department of Health and Human Services has just released the Third National Incidence Study of Child Abuse and Neglect. This is the single most comprehensive source of information about the current incidence of child abuse and neglect in the United States and is based on a nationally representative sample of over 5,600 professionals in 842 agencies serving 42 counties. The study used two sets of standardized definitions of abuse and neglect. Under the Harm Standard, children identified in the study were considered to be maltreated only if they had already experienced harm from abuse or neglect. Under the Endangerment Standard, children who experienced abuse or neglect that put them at risk of harm were included in the set of those considered to be maltreated, together with the already-harmed children. The findings of the Third National Incidence Study show a sharp increase in the scope of the problem, whether maltreatment is defined using the Harm Standard or the Endangered Standard.

Estimated Incidence Defined by Harm Standard

An estimated 1,553,800 Children in the United States were abused or neglected in 1993. The total reflects a 67 percent increase since the Second Incidence Study which indicated that the total was 931,000 in 1986, and it corresponds to a 149 percent increase since the First Incidence Study estimate for 1980 of 625,100 children. The number of abused children rose by 46 percent from an estimated 507,700 in 1986 to 743,200 in 1993. The number of neglected children increased significantly from 474,800 in 1986 to 879,000 in 1993.

Significant increases were found in the incidence of sexual abuse, physical neglect, and emotional neglect, and a close-to-significant (statistically marginal) increase was observed in the incidence of physical abuse.

- The estimated number of sexually abused children rose from 119,200 in 1986 to 217,700 in 1993 (an 83 percent increase).

- The number of physically neglected children increased from 167,800 in 1986 to 338,900 in 1993 (a 102 percent increase).

- There was a 333 percent increase in the estimated number of emotionally neglected children, from 49,200 in 1986 to 212,800 in 1993.

- The estimated number of physically abused children was 269,700 in 1986, increasing to 381,700 in 1993.

There was a substantial and significant increase in the incidence of children who were seriously harmed and a statistically marginal increase in the number for whom injury could be inferred due to the severe nature of the maltreatment. The estimated number of seriously injured children essentially quadrupled from 141,70 to 565,000. The number of children for whom injury could be inferred increased from an estimated 105,500 to an estimated 165,300 (a 57 percent increase).

Incidence Using Endangerment Standard

Between 1986 and 1993, the total estimated number of abused and neglected children in the United States who fit the Endangerment Standard nearly doubled. In 1986, there were an estimated 1,424,400 abused and neglected children in the United States. The 1993 estimate of 2,815,600 reflects a 98 percent increase. Significant increases were found in both abuse and neglect. The number of abused children more than doubled from 590,800 to 1,221,800 (a 107 percent increase) while the number of neglected children also more than doubled from 917,200 to 1,961,300 (a 114 percent increase). The increases were substantial and significant in all types of abuse and neglect except educational neglect.

- The estimated number of physically abused children rose from 311,500 to 614,100 (a 97 percent increase).

- The estimated number of sexually abused children increased from 133,600 to 300,200 (a 125 percent increase).
- The more recent estimate of the number of emotionally abused children was 183 percent higher than the previous estimate (188,100 in 1986 versus 532,200 in 1993).
- The estimated number of physically neglected children increased from 507,700 to 1,335,100 (a 163 percent increase);
- The estimated number of emotionally neglected children nearly tripled, rising from 203,000 to 585,100 (a 188 percent increase).

When the children whose abuse or neglect met the Endangerment Standard were classified according to the injury or harm they suffered, significant increases were evident in two categories. First, the 1993 estimate of the number of children who were endangered by their maltreatment (but not yet harmed) was more than four times the 1986 estimate. That is, the number of endangered children rose from an estimated 254,000 in 1986 to an estimated 1,032,000 in 1993 (a 306 percent increase). Second, the number of children who were seriously injured or harmed by abuse or neglect that fit the Endangerment Standard in 1993 was well over one-half million, which is nearly quadruple the 1986 estimate for the category. In 1986, an estimated 143,300 children had been seriously injured by abuse or neglect. In 1993, the figure was 569,900 (a 298 percent increase). Note that nearly all (99 percent) of the children who counted as seriously injured here were also countable under the Harm Standard, so the near-quadrupling of their numbers since 1986 essentially reiterates what was reported in connection with the Harm Standard.

Distribution by Child's Characteristics

The child's sex and age were related to the rate of maltreatment, but race was not.

Child's Sex: Girls were sexually abused about three times more often than boys, under both the Harm and Endangerment Standards. This finding reiterates the 1986 result, so females' disproportionately greater risk of sexual abuse has been stable over time. This sex difference in incidence rates of sexual abuse leads to higher rates of abuse in general among girls. Also, because the definitional guidelines permit the inference that injury or harm occurred in connection with the more extreme forms of sexual abuse, girls' greater risk of sexual abuse also accounts for their higher incidence rates for inferred injury.

At the same time, boys had higher incidence rates than girls in some arenas, and boys' maltreatment risks also demonstrated some increases since 1986. Boys were at somewhat greater risk of serious injury (24 percent higher than girls' risk under both definitional standards), and boys were significantly more likely to be emotionally neglected (boys' risk was 18 percent greater than girls'). Also boys' rates of physical neglect defined by the Harm Standard and of emotional abuse

using the Endangerment Standard increased more than girls' rates did. Moreover, trends in the incidence of fatal injuries from maltreatment moved in opposite directions for girls and boys—the incidence of fatally injured girls declined slightly while the incidence of fatally injured boys rose.

Child's Age: A consistent feature of the age difference in incidence rates in 1993 was the lower incidence of maltreatment among the younger children under both definitional standards. In most cases, the differentiation was between the 0 to 2-year-olds and older children or between the 0-5-year-olds and older children. It is possible that the lower rates at these younger ages reflect underreporting of these age groups. That is, prior to attaining school age, children are less observable to community professionals.

Another recurring theme in connection with age is that of disproportionate increases in the incidence of maltreatment among the younger children (under 12 years old) and especially among children in their middle childhood years (ages 6 to 11). As circumstances deteriorate and maltreatment becomes more prevalent and more severe, older children have greater opportunities for escape. Also, older children are more able to defend themselves and/or retaliate. These factors may have moderated the increases in maltreatment that were observed among the older age group.

The disproportionate increases during the younger and middle childhood years mean that the overall profiles of age differences in maltreatment were different in 1993 than in 1986. In 1986, the risk of maltreatment generally increased with the age of the child in a close to linear fashion. With the lopsided increases among the younger children and children in middle childhood years, the profile has changed toward a curvilinear configuration—where the middle years childhood are associated with the maximum risk of maltreatment—and toward a somewhat flatter distribution—where age differences are somewhat attenuated overall compared to 1986.

One of the most striking findings is the age distribution of sexual abuse, which combined the general flattening of the age differences in incidence rates with a very low age transition in the distribution of incidence rates. The rate of sexual abuse as defined under the Endangerment Standard was very low for 0-2-year-olds, but then relatively constant for children ages three and older, indicating a very broad age range of vulnerability from preschool age up.

Race: The 1993 study found no race differences in maltreatment incidence. The study reiterates the findings of the earlier national incidence studies in this regard. Service providers may find these results somewhat surprising in view of the disproportionate representation of children of color in the child welfare population and in the clientele of other public agencies. However, it should be recognized that the study methodology identifies a much broader range of children than those who come to the attention of any one type of service agency or the even smaller subset who receive child protective and other child welfare services. The study findings suggest that the different races receive differential attention somewhere during the process of referral, investigation, and service allocation, and that the differential representation of

minorities in the child welfare population does not derive from inherent differences in the rates at which they are abused or neglected. While there are no overall race differences in the incidence of child abuse and neglect in the 1993 findings, subsequent analyses that simultaneously consider multiple characteristics may reveal race differences in maltreatment incidence among specific subsets of children (e.g., for children of certain ages, for one sex but not the other, etc.).

Distribution by Family Characteristics

The incidence of child maltreatment varied as a function of family income, family structure, family size, and the metropolitan status of the county.

Family Structures: Children of single parents were at higher risk of physical abuse and of all types of neglect and were overrepresented among seriously injured, moderately injured, and endangered children. Compared with their counterparts living with both parents, children in single parent families had:

- A 77 percent greater risk of being harmed by physical abuse (using the stringent Harm Standard) and a 63 percent greater risk of experiencing any countable physical abuse (using the Endangerment Standard).
- An 87 percent greater risk of being harmed by physical neglect and a 165 percent greater risk of experiencing any countable physical neglect.
- A 74 percent greater risk of being harmed by emotional neglect and a 64 percent greater risk of experiencing any countable emotional neglect.
- A 220 percent (or more than three times) greater risk of being educationally neglected.
- An approximately 80 percent greater risk of suffering serious injury or harm from abuse or neglect.
- An approximately 90 percent greater risk of receiving moderate injury or harm as a result of child maltreatment.
- A 120 percent (or more than two times) greater risk of being endangered by some type of child abuse or neglect.

Among children in single parent households, those living with only their fathers were approximately one and two-thirds more likely to be physically abused than those living with only their mothers. Although parents are not necessarily, nor even most frequently, the perpetrators of maltreatment, the relationship between parent structure and maltreatment incidence is understandable, considering the added responsibilities and stresses of single parenting together with the likelihood that surrounding social and practical support may be inadequate.

Family Size: The incidence of maltreatment was related to the number of dependent children in the family, especially

in the categories of physical and educational neglect. For educational and physical neglect according to the Harm Standard, the incidence rates were highest for children in the largest families (those with four or more children), intermediate for "only" children, and lowest for children in families with two to three children. Children in the largest families were almost three times more likely to be educationally neglected and nearly two and two-fifths times more likely to be physically neglected under the Harm Standard, compared to children in families with two or three children. Children in the largest families were physically neglected at nearly three times the rate of those who came from "only" child families.

Additional children in a household mean additional tasks and responsibilities so it is understandable why incidence rates of abuse and neglect may be higher when there are more children. Accounting for why "only" children have higher rates of educational neglect and of physical neglect than children in families with two or three children requires a different explanation. One possibility is that there may be too many expectations focused on "only" children, whereas expectations (and disappointments) are different over multiple children in the larger families. Many "only" children are in families with relatively young and inexperienced parents and caretakers.

County Metropolitan Status: The incidence of children who had been moderately harmed by maltreatment was significantly lower among children in large urban counties than among children who lived in other urban counties. This was interpreted as reflecting a general undercoverage of moderately injured maltreated children in the large urban counties. It was not clear whether this was because the moderately injured children are less likely to be encountered by community professionals in the large urban centers, because community professionals in these locales are less likely to identify these children as maltreated, or because the study information sources in these counties are less likely to submit data about these maltreated children.

Family Income: Despite the fact that only a rather gross index of family income was available, and despite a substantial percentage of cases with missing data on this factor, family income was significantly related to incidence rates in nearly every category of maltreatment. Compared to children whose families earned \$30,000 per year or more, those in families with annual incomes below \$15,000 per year were: more than 22 times more likely to experience some form of maltreatment under the Harm Standard and over 25 times more likely to suffer maltreatment of some type using the Endangerment Standard. The 1993 findings on the correlation between family income and child maltreatment are entirely consistent with earlier finding in the 1986 study. Moreover, they cannot be plausibly explained on the basis of the higher visibility of lower income families to community professionals.

If the income finding is interpreted as an artifact of selective observation of low income families, then it would mean that there have to be enough undetected abused and neglected children in the middle and upper income brackets used here to equalize the incidence rates across different income categories. That would require an astounding number

of still undetected children in the nation who experience countable maltreatment. It would mean that an additional 2,138,700 children suffered maltreatment yet remained hidden to the study.

Distribution by Perpetrator Characteristics

The majority of all children countable under the Harm Standard (78 percent) were maltreated by their birth parents, and this held true both for children who were abused (62 percent) and for those who were neglected (91 percent experienced neglect by birth parents). The pattern was distinctly different for sexual abuse. Nearly one-half of the sexually abused children were abused by someone other than a parent or parent substitute, while just over one-fourth were sexually abused by a birth parent, and one-fourth were sexually abused by other than a birth parent or parent substitute.

Children were somewhat more likely to be maltreated by female perpetrators than by males. Of children who were maltreated by their birth parents, the majority (75 percent) were maltreated by their mothers and a sizable minority (46 percent) were maltreated by their fathers. In contrast, children who were maltreated by other parents or parent substitutes or by other persons were more likely to have been maltreated by a male than by a female (80 to 85 percent were maltreated by males; 14 to 41 percent by females). Children were more often neglected by female perpetrators (87 percent by females versus 43 percent males). In contrast children were more often abused by males (67 percent versus 40 percent by females). The prevalence of male perpetrators was strongest in the category of sexual abuse, where 89 percent of the children were abused by a male compared to only 12 percent by a female.

Child Protective Service Investigations

The study findings concerning the percentages of abused and neglected children whose maltreatment received Child Protective Service (CPS) investigation are cause for serious concern. Only a minority of the children who were abused or neglected, by either definitional standard, received CPS attention for their maltreatment. CPS investigated the maltreatment of only 28 percent of children who were countable under the Harm Standard and of only 33 percent of those whose maltreatment fit the Endangerment Standard. Moreover, the percentage of those who received CPS investigation represented less than one-half of the maltreated children in all categories of maltreatment except fatalities. Especially remarkable was the finding that CPS investigations extended to only slightly more than one-fourth of the children who were seriously harmed or injured.

Another important finding was that the percentages of maltreated children who receive CPS investigation have decreased significantly since 1986. The percentage of children receiving investigation among those who met the Harm Standard dropped from 44 percent to 28 percent, while the percentage of CPS investigation of children who met the Endangerment Standard fell from 51 percent to 33 percent.

At the same time, the actual numbers of children investigated by CPS remained stable or even slightly increased. Thus, as the total number of maltreated children has risen, it means that a larger percentage of them have not had access to CPS investigation of their maltreatment. This picture suggests that the CPS system has reached its capacity to respond to the maltreated child population.

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WASHINGTON SOCIAL LEGISLATION BULLETIN

Child Abuse and Neglect Third National Incidence Study

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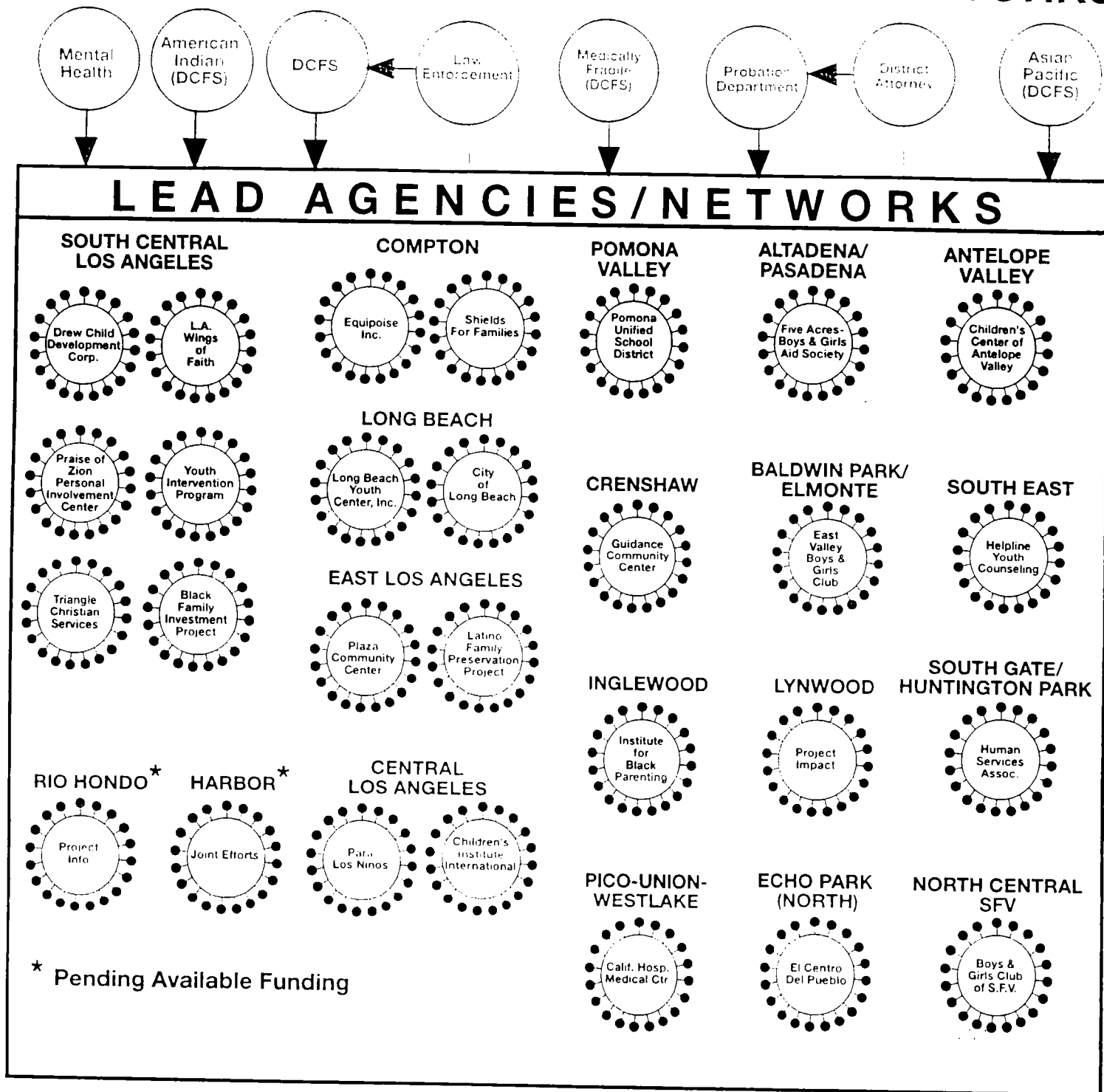
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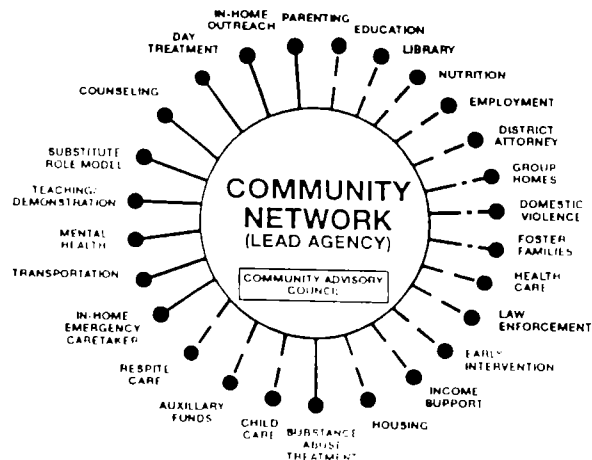
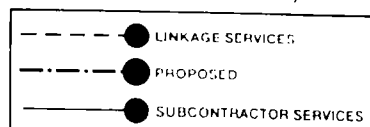
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COMMUNITY FAMILY PRESERVATION NETWORKS



COMMUNITY NETWORK MODEL
(Services Provided)





SPECIAL INFORMATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE TO STAFF AND POSTING ON EMPLOYEE BULLETIN BOARDS

TO: All Staff

August 1, 1996

(Reissue of Labor Day 1995

April 23, 1996)

**OUR FIRST PRIORITY IS SAFETY
AND
OUR PRIMARY MISSION IS LEGAL PERMANENCY**

Achieving legal lifetime permanency for children is the primary mission of DCFS in any interaction with children and families. Our first concern remains the safety of children. No action should ever be taken which puts a child at jeopardy. However, legal permanency is an essential component of developmental, psychological and economic safety for children. No child can ever feel truly safe and secure when he or she can be taken from a placement at any time with little warning. This feeling of insecurity is deeply detrimental to a child's development and may have lifelong consequences.

The increasing numbers of children entering the child welfare system nation-wide who remain in foster care until adulthood have created serious community concern. Our Department shares this concern and has renewed its efforts to increase the incidence of legal permanency and refocus our attention on the importance of achieving legal permanency for our children, as soon as the law permits.

Legal permanency is achieved when a child is safely reunified with his/her parents or, when reunification is not possible, the legal relationship of adoption has been established. The child should be assured that no governmental agency, including DCFS, can intervene to remove him or her from home without legally sustainable allegations of abuse or neglect. Similarly, the parent should not be able to divest him or herself of responsibility to the child at will. While it is clearly true that some biological parents abandon their children and some adoptions are rescinded, the intention of a legally permanent family is to live permanently as a family. ¹The hallmarks of permanency are the parents' legal and personal responsibility for the child, an intent on the part of the parents and family to make

¹ Our statistics indicate that the number of finalized adoptive placements that disrupt is significantly lower than the disruption rate for legal guardianship situations. "Statewide in the last two years there was an average of only 14 total setaside petitions (which are filed to legally nullify a finalized adoption) versus a statewide rate of 8% (or 1 out of every 12) for guardianship disruptions." SOURCE: CDSS and CWDA 1994 Permanent Placement Caseload Survey. "In terms of stability of foster placements, a 1994 survey by CWDA found that statewide 9.4% of PP children had 6 or more placements during their current stay in the system with 76.7% of the PP children having between 1 and 3 placements. The same survey showed that 23.3% of the PP children statewide had spent over 5 years in placement. Another 22.3% PP youth had been in placement 3 to 5 years." SOURCE: CWDA 1994 Permanent Placement Caseload Survey.

a lifelong commitment to the child, and the family's autonomy from interference from outside governmental agencies. The ultimate goal is for children to have stable nurturing families on which they can rely throughout their lives.

The value of permanency lasts a lifetime. Unlike legal guardianship or long-term foster care, a permanent family has a lifelong responsibility to a child. A permanent family also provides a sense of personal and social identity. Permanent families provide economic, psychological and emotional support and security long after the child reaches the age of 18. A permanent family is where one can go in times of crisis as well as times of joy. A permanent family maintains ongoing concern for a child and an emotional connection with that child throughout all major life events. In other words, a permanent family meets Robert Frost's definition of home: "Home is where, when you go there, they have to take you in." Most children who emancipate from non-legally permanent care have none of these advantages. These young people are at severe risk of homelessness and destitution when common life crises occur such as loss of a job, dropping out of college, or a major illness.

The preferred goal for every child should, therefore, be to live in a legally permanent, autonomous home. In many cases, the most obvious way to achieve permanency is for the child to remain with, or return to, his or her parents. The law, Departmental policy and good social work practice all favor preserving or reunifying families, when that can be done safely,² as the preferred form of legal permanency. Nothing in this bulletin or in any other Department policy contradicts that principle. This is a primary reason for the Department's major efforts to develop intensive family preservation and support resources and to strengthen families in preparation for returning the child to his or her home. However, as we all know, not all children can return safely to their families.

If return home cannot be safely accomplished, the decision to move forward with adoptive planning should be made as soon as legally possible. Adoption provides legal protection and permanency for the child, as well as a sense of belonging and an opportunity for the child to identify with and form permanent emotional attachments to a family. All children are potentially adoptable as long as there is a family willing and able to adopt and the child is willing to be adopted. It is our responsibility and moral obligation to seek an adoptive family who can best meet the needs of each child under our care who cannot return home and to plan together for the future of these children.

² The idea of safe return home is critical. It is not necessarily the case that a child can return home safely simply because the parent(s) have fulfilled the requirements of the case plan. A recommendation to return home should not be made unless the caseworker is confident that the child will not be re-abused or re-injured. See "Our First Priority is Child Safety" and In Re Joseph B. 96 Daily Journal D.A.R. 1891 (2-22-96) "Consistent with the purpose of the dependency scheme, the question whether to return a child to parental custody is dictated by the well-being of the child at the time of the review hearing; if returning the child will create a substantial risk of detriment to his or her physical or emotional well-being (secs 366.21, subd. (e) & (f), 366.22 subd. (a) placement must continue regardless of whether that detriment mirrors the harm which had required the child's removal from parental custody (1894).

It is often difficult to determine with certainty that a child will never be able to return home safely. Because we recognize the importance of family ties, we try to give a family every opportunity to create a safe environment for its children. However, when families do not improve in a timely manner, a decision has to be made to find another permanent home for a child. Federal and State laws define relatively narrow time limits for family reunification. These limits were developed to prevent children from growing up in foster care without permanent homes and families. Family reunification remains our goal, however, when that is not feasible, it is imperative that we develop a permanent plan for our children as soon as the law permits. In some cases, it is neither necessary nor advisable to wait 18 months to recommend that the court terminate family reunification services. *Examples:*

- WIC 366.21 (e) specifies that at the review hearing that is held six months after the dispositional hearing, the court may schedule a WIC 366.26 Hearing within 120 days instead of waiting an additional 12 months, if a child was initially removed under WIC 300 (g) and the court finds that the parents are whereabouts unknown or have failed to contact and visit the child.
- WIC 366.21 (f) permits us to similarly accelerate the 366.26 process if there is evidence that returning the child "...would create a substantial risk of detriment to the physical or emotional well-being..." because of the parent/guardian's failure to regularly participate in court-ordered treatment programs.
- WIC 366.21 (g)(1) specifies that at the 12-month review hearing, the court shall continue the case for six months **only if it finds that there is a substantial probability that the child will be returned to his/her parents or guardian's custody within those six months** or that reasonable services have not been provided to the parent/guardian.

Attempting to be lenient in the application of the law does not serve our children well. Our own statistics show that the likelihood that a family will reunify declines sharply after the first 18 months to 2 years that the child is in care. Giving a family an open-ended period of time to reunify directly defeats the purpose of the law by delaying effective planning for the child's future without substantially increasing the chances that the child will go home.

The law and good practice clearly establishes a hierarchy of placement options for children who cannot return home which favors legal permanency over less permanent alternatives. If there is a qualified family willing to adopt the child, placement with that adoptive family is preferable to legal guardianship even if the child must move from an existing foster home to a new adoptive placement. This principle holds true regardless of the child's "bonding" with the potential guardians. While it is extremely undesirable to continually move a child, there is lasting value to moving a child from a temporary placement to a permanent one. We clearly accept this view when the move is from foster care to the child's own family. This is no less true for a legally permanent family newly created through adoption.

Relative guardianships present a different situation. Although a child in relative placement does not have a legally permanent home, the kinship relationship is permanent. So, in many instances, relative guardianships do provide the psychological and social permanency that is the goal for every child. For this reason, in many cases, but not all, relative guardianships may be an exception to the rule that a permanent placement is always preferable to one that is less than permanent. As with all permanent placement decisions, a thorough assessment must also be done to determine if this is the best home for the child. However, the possibility that the relative would be willing to adopt should not be ignored. Adoption allows families to make their own decisions without state intervention and maintain full control over their own lives. Many relatives would be willing to adopt if they were aware of the availability of adoption assistance payments and understood the importance of permanency to the child.

On the other hand, unrelated legal guardianship does not provide the assurance of permanency for a child. The decision to choose guardianship over adoption represents a conditional commitment to the child rather than a permanent one.

Long-term foster care provides the least stability and security for the child of all long-term placements and indicates the lowest level of commitment to the child. All too often these placements are temporary and the child moves many times. The resulting lack of permanency or belonging can lead to isolation, despair and ultimately withdrawal from society.

The fact that a young child is "bonded" to a foster family that is unwilling to adopt him or her is not an acceptable reason to eliminate the possibility of adoption for that child. By leaving the child in a placement that is, by its very nature, a temporary situation, we risk the possibility of a later move which could prove to be even more psychologically damaging. We must also question the message being given and the one-sided nature of this "bonding". Are we telling the child that although he or she may be bonded to the foster parent, the foster parent is not sufficiently bonded to him or her to make a long-term commitment? Children in this situation cannot feel that they are fully wanted and permanent members of a family. Too often the decision to leave a child in long-term foster care is based on the short-term desires of the caretaker, rather than a long-term life plan for a child.

The research on bonding demonstrates the importance to infants of developing emotional bonds with a parent figure. This bonding forms the basis for the development of intimate attachments later in life. Like language development, bonding is a skill or psychological task which must be accomplished during a critical period. The issue is not the specific bond that is formed, but rather the learning of the ability to bond. Works such as Beyond the Best Interest of the Child view bonding as a way of determining who is a psychological parent for custody purposes. The research is clear that "bonding" is not the only factor to be considered when placing a child in a home. The fact that the child has bonded to one adult is, in fact, a positive indication of his or her ability to attach to an adoptive family. While it may be deemed preferable to maintain an established

psychological bond with the foster family, permanency is of far greater importance to the child's future life and well-being.³

It is critical that we not forget the children who are already in a Permanent Placement mode/caseload. Periodically, at least every 18 months by law, we need to re-initiate the adoption assessment process for these children and submit the new assessment to the court. We are obligated by law and good casework practice to routinely re-assess these children for adoption.

The principles outlined in this bulletin do not preclude a reasoned look at individual cases in light of the law and good social work practice. For example, the law recognizes that the children over the age of twelve may choose not to be adopted and respects that choice. For older children with strong attachments to their families, this may be the correct decision. On the other hand, we should not presume that no older child wants to be adopted. Both individually and as a department we must make efforts to find creative solutions that provide permanency consistent with each child's individual needs. We must be vigilant in ensuring that we are actually looking at the needs of the child and not our own needs or desires or those of the caregiver.

We have the opportunity to touch the lives of the children and families with whom we work in a way that few others can. The decisions we all make now will affect these children's lives forever. All of our children deeply need, long for, and deserve legally permanent parents. The achievement of our mission and the very value of our professional lives depends on our success in ensuring that all children are provided with the security and emotional well-being that comes from being part of a legally permanent family.


PETER DIGRE, DIRECTOR

PD:ca/permstat2.doc

³ See: Berrick, Needell, Barth and Jonson-Reid, "The Tender Years: Toward Developmentally-Sensitive Child Welfare Services for Very Young Children", CWRC, March, 1996 pp. 1-6 - 1-9 and sources quoted therein.

DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES



SPECIAL INFORMATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE TO STAFF AND POSTING ON EMPLOYEE BULLETIN BOARDS

To: All Staff
Each CFPN Director
Each IUC Dean
Each IUC Center Director
IUC Director

October 14, 1996

March 12, 1996

(Reissue of New Year's Day, 1996

May Day, 1995

November 1, 1994

September 1, 1994

September 1, 1993

New Year's Day, 1993)

OUR TOP PRIORITY IS CHILD SAFETY

As we implement the final Phases of our family preservation and family reunification resources (we now have 23 programs -- see Attachment A), I want to stress that child safety continues to be our **top** priority. Family preservation or reunification services should be seen as means to eliminate risk to children and increase the safety of children in their own homes. Use of family preservation or family reunification services should always be governed by an overriding concern for child protection and child safety.

Implementation into practice of the policies contained in this Special Information Bulletin is so critical to our top priority of child safety that I am requiring that all managers review and be familiar with its content. I am also requiring that all managers train all their staff at all times as to the content and practice issues presented. In addition, all CFPN Program Managers should review these policies in detail with their staff, member network agencies, Community Advisory Councils and any others who may contribute to the protection and well-being of our children. This is also the top priority for all our IUC and other training.

The situation for children in Los Angeles is becoming more dangerous and will continue to do so because (see Attachments B and C):

- economic despair and stress are widespread;
- the number of drug-exposed babies is large and continues to grow;

- abuse/neglect reporting has increased vastly, especially dangerous physical and sexual abuse;
- welfare reform is drastically altering the economic and health care support of many families. Many more children are ineligible for SSI, food stamps, and welfare, and many families are being confronted with grave stress and destitution.

This situation requires extraordinary caution and attention to child protection and child safety. Key procedures in being cautious and attentive include:

1. Child visitation (full compliance with all children) (citation: CSWH #GR 93-02, Visitation and Contact Requirements). Please conduct visits in homes and at times without advance notice as appropriate. Pay special attention to FM and reunified cases. Please be attentive as to whether or not relative caretakers are fulfilling all obligations to protect the child. As necessary, please visit relatives in home and without advance notice until you are confident that they will fulfill all obligations to protect the children;
2. CHDP periodic exams and concerted follow-up care (citation: CSWH #HCI 93-07, Health Care Services for DCS-Supervised Children);
3. Making sure that there is a finding for each allegation (CIS 100) (citations: CSWH #ER 92-02, Completing the Initial Contacts on New Cases; CSWH #CP 93-01, Initial Case Plan; and, FYI #92-08, Revision of the CIS 100, Emergency Response Referral);
4. Timely ER response (citation: CSWH #CAP 1, Response Times). Please be ever vigilant to vital collateral contacts;
5. DRA approval, as delegated by Paul Freedlund and the Regional Administrators, of returns of children under the age of five years (i.e., 0-59 months), per procedures (citations: CSWH #CP 93-01, Initial Case Plan; CSWH #CP 93-02, Case Plan Update; CSWH #IN 93-03, Taking Children into Temporary Custody; and, FYI #95-83 [Rev. 2/96], Enhanced Protection for Children Under the Age of Five Years);
6. All background checks, including CII, CIS/WCMIS, JAI, CAI, per procedures (citations: CSWH #Court 93-06, Clearances: CII, JAI, CAI and CIS/WCMIS; CSWH #Placement 92-02, DCS Certified License Pending Home; CSWH #Placement 92-03, Out-of-Home Placement with Relatives; and, CSWH #ER 92-02, Completing the Initial Contacts on New Cases). Include background checks on persons who may not live in the home but assume caregiver/

babysitting roles, such as girlfriends/boyfriends and non-custodial parents. Remember that all background checks must be completed for reunification or extended visitation, as well as at ER, if not previously completed within the six-month time frame authorized by policy. Make sure you understand and document the significance and meaning of the findings of the background checks, including a detailed analysis in all case plans and court reports;

7. Relative home studies and background checks (citation: CSWH #Placement 92-03, Out-of-Home Placement with Relatives). Include background checks on persons who may not live in the home but assume caregiver/babysitting roles, such as girlfriends/boyfriends and non-custodial fathers (citations: CSWH #Court 93-06, Clearances: CII, JAI, CAI and CIS/WCMIS; and, Special Information Bulletin entitled Child Abuse Index [CAI]: Clearances for Relative Placements, dated March 12, 1996). Make sure you check the garage and all areas of the home and property for safety (citation: FYI #95-81 [Rev. 2/96], Additional Requirements for Relative Placements);
8. Use of the DCFS 550, Body Chart, per procedures. Get medical help in physical abuse assessments, as required. Follow our procedures regarding diagnostic imaging. Often, old broken bones and injuries are hidden. Use our nurses in each office fully to obtain needed professional opinion, resources, and technical assistance (citations: CSWH #ER 92-02, Completing the Initial Contacts on New Cases; CSWH #HCI 93-08, Public Health Nursing Component of the Protective Services Child Health System; and, FYI #96-29 [Rev. 2/8/96], Diagnostic Imaging: A Requirement of the Medical Examination for Physical Abuse & Severe Neglect Cases);
9. Limiting the number of kids in foster home placement locations to six, unless the RA approves an exception (citations: #AD 92-10, Capacity in Relative or Foster Family Home Placements; and, CSWH #92-03, Out-of-Home Placement with Relatives);
10. Use of VIP and ensuring that all homes are within licensed capacity and properly licensed for the type of child(ren) placed (citations: FYI #93-23, VIP Plan to Verify Population and Capacity in Foster Homes - Vacancy Information Placement [VIP]); and, FYI #96-17, Technical Assistant Expanded Responsibilities);
11. Supervision of medically/technologically complex kids by our Medical Placement Unit (citations: CSWH #HCI 92-01, Medical Placement Unit Intake and Assessment Criteria;

and, FYI #95-47, Medically Fragile Children), or a placement plan approved by Amaryllis Watkins only;

12. Risk assessments (citations: CSWH #ER 92-02, Completing the Initial Contacts on New Cases; and CSWH #CP 93-01, Initial Case Plan). Use medical and psychological consultants to help you sort out complicated issues. Keep a close eye on stress related to pregnancy and custody fights;
13. Use of County Counsel to appeal adverse decisions when children are endangered (citation: CSWH #Court 91-01, Adverse Decisions by the Court. Note: This CSWH will soon be cancelled and replaced by CSWH #Court 95-03, Adverse Court Orders/Decisions). In this regard, court officers have a very central role to perform in assuring that all "Safety Czar" procedures are adhered to (citation: Peter Digre memos to Management Forum dated 10/24/95 and 10/26/95);
14. Careful use of the disrobing protocols (citation: CSWH #SD 95-01, Disrobing Children);
15. Full use of new in-home services, such as child care and family preservation. THESE SERVICES SHOULD BE USED VERY EXTENSIVELY WHENEVER YOU HAVE CONCERNS ABOUT CHILD SAFETY. THEY SHOULD ALMOST ALWAYS BE USED FOR REUNIFICATION. ALSO BE LIBERAL WHEN 1) SETTING LEVELS OF SERVICES AND 2) AUTHORIZING SERVICE EXTENSIONS. ERR ON THE SIDE OF TOO MUCH SERVICE!!! **ALSO**, BE CAUTIOUS TO NOT RETURN CHILDREN HOME FASTER AND IN GREATER NUMBERS THAN PARENTS CAN MANAGE. REMEMBER THAT INFANTS AND TODDLERS CREATE SPECIAL STRESSES. ALSO, PREGNANCY OR CUSTODY BATTLES CAN BE A TIME OF EXCEPTIONAL STRESS. (citations: CSWH #92-03 [Revised], Protective Services Child Care; CSWH #SP 93-02, The Family Preservation Program). Also, remember that DRA signatures are required when returning children age 0-59 months home or allowing them to remain in their home (citation: FYI #95-83 [Rev. 2/96], Enhanced Protection for Children Under the Age of Five Years);
16. Make sure all kids in placement have a Medi-Cal card at all times (citation: FYI #92-33, Medi-Cal Card Issuance). SDHS will now do immediate HMO disenrollment (citations: FYI #95-82, Immediate HMO Disenrollment; FYI #96-17, Technical Assistant Expanded Responsibility; and, Memo from Peter Digre to All Staff, Dated 12/21/95, Regarding HMO Disenrollment);
17. In general, be very cautious about use of VFM in recent sexual or physical abuse cases. You will usually need the support of a court order (citations: CSWH #CP 93-

01, Initial Case Plan; CSWH #CP 93-02, Case Plan Update);

18. IF A FAMILY DISAPPEARS OR MOVES AND YOU CANNOT FIND THEM, GET A PROTECTIVE CUSTODY WARRANT IMMEDIATELY AND DO A DUE DILIGENCE TO FIND THEM (citations: Dependency Handbook, Sections 36675-36680.4; Children's Services Handbook, Sections 5500-5570); and,
19. SCSWs should hold at least semi-monthly professional case conferences with all CSWs to deal with safety, permanency and other professional case issues. RAs/DRAs should conduct at least monthly professional discussions with all staff regarding safety, permanency and other professional issues.

Additionally, I would like you to consider the following casework issues as you provide services to our families:

The first issue is that of other adults who live in or are in and out of the home, OR WHO LIVE OUT OF THE HOME BUT FUNCTION AS CAREGIVERS/BABYSITTERS (this includes such persons as non-custodial parents, boyfriends, girlfriends and other significant others who may have contact with the child). These relationships may be of short duration, and the children may be seen as "in the way." This may lead to impatience and anger on the part of a live-in or visiting adult. Keep in mind also that children's behavior, especially those under age six, will become more clinging and demanding of the parent's attention when a stranger moves into the family. Consequently, a dynamic may be set up where the other adult and the child may become competitors for the parent's attention and affection. This can be a dangerous situation in that the child may become a target of the rage.

Understanding the sociopathic personality is the second critical protective and child welfare issue addressed here. Keep in mind that what is said concerning sociopathic behavior can apply to parents, stepparents, other live-in adults or caregivers. Do not look for any obvious signs of neurosis or psychosis in sociopaths. They may, in fact, come across as charming and even have a disarming attitude of over-protectiveness and cooperation. This behavior is exhibited to mislead the Children's Social Worker, who may also become the object of charm and superficial civility. Not being aware that this extreme cooperativeness may be a cover for abusive behavior has led to tragedy in some instances. Sociopaths will go to extremes to hide abuse of their children, so diligence is required. They will tell workers anything that they think the workers want to hear, and will appear to be "making progress." You may find yourself proud of the power of your services to change lives, while the abuse continues.

What are the practice implications for these two situations?
When either condition is present, always consider their impact

before deciding that the home is safe for continued placement or for reunification of the child. In the case of suspected sociopathic behavior, check the history very thoroughly. (Sociopaths may use different hospitals in order to cover their tracks.) Get professional diagnostic support from clinicians. Check medical records. Have the child medically examined in reports of physical or sexual abuse. Look for patterns of inconsistencies in attachment, bonding and affect. Be skeptical of problems that are too readily resolved. Demand a thorough and complete explanation for all injuries to the child. Get diagnostic imaging to check for old injuries. While an accurate history is critical in identifying this personality, keep in mind that sociopaths have probably fooled others before you, so look closely at unfounded reports, a pattern of "accidents" and "sibling" or "self-inflicted" injuries. Never accept the excuse that the baby is sleeping or otherwise unavailable so you can't see him/her -- SEE AND EXAMINE THE CHILD! Make sure you see every child every time you visit.

Interviewing the sociopath becomes extremely important to the future safety of the children. If the relationship between adult and child is exploitive, then count on the interview being exploitive. Sociopaths will avoid accountability and responsibility at all costs. Expect them to reduce any stress or tension on themselves by directing the interview elsewhere. Therefore, the interview can be distorted, if not misleading, because the sociopathic client may be quite adept at pointing you in the wrong direction. The interviewer must be confrontive and challenging and the questions must be precise, direct and to-the-point. You may find many people around the sociopath supporting his/her version of the facts, because they are either charmed or part of a sociopathic network.

All staff should be aware that, when confronted, sociopaths often respond with narcissistic rage. They can become violent, not so much because they have hurt a child and have been caught, but because their own sense of self-importance has been injured. The humiliation of continuing to be considered a perpetrator despite their tactics causes intense hostility that can erupt into rage. Keep this in mind at unsupervised visits and in home and field interviews. Court orders are often useful against these perpetrators, as they respect or fear the power of the court to intrude into their lives.

Many of our families have serious and deep life patterns of violence and addiction. Compliance with a case plan may or may not indicate that these long-term patterns have been altered. Careful analysis and cautious professional judgment is always needed to ensure that the risk factors are eliminated.

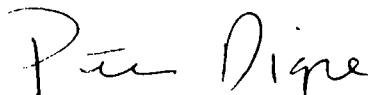
Finally, PLEASE BE CAREFUL TO ANALYZE THE SIGNIFICANCE OF PREGNANCY OR THE STRESS OF CUSTODY BATTLES IN YOUR ASSESSMENT. Pregnancy and custody fights may be times of great physical, familial and/or economic stress which may lead to behavioral

changes. This analysis should always be a factor for consideration in risk assessment and family preservation and family reunification planning. Beware of too rapid reunification planning during pregnancy. Small children and pregnancy are a stressful mix to all of us!!! Custody battles are a nightmare to many parents.

In short, the following principles shall underlie decision-making and case activity:

- follow all child safety procedures;
- our first concern is always protection of the child;
- be extra vigilant always, especially when other live-in or non-live-in caregiver/babysitter adults are present;
- recognize that those who charm you with their progress may require careful analysis;
- hope for progress must be balanced with analysis backed up with facts;
- compliance with the case plan must be analyzed with cautious professional judgment to make sure risk factors are eliminated;
- examine the children. Do not be put off by excuses that they are sleeping or otherwise unavailable;
- evaluate the impact of pregnancy or a custody battle as an added stress on the family; and,
- increased economic stress is increasing abuse and neglect and the severity of abuse and neglect.

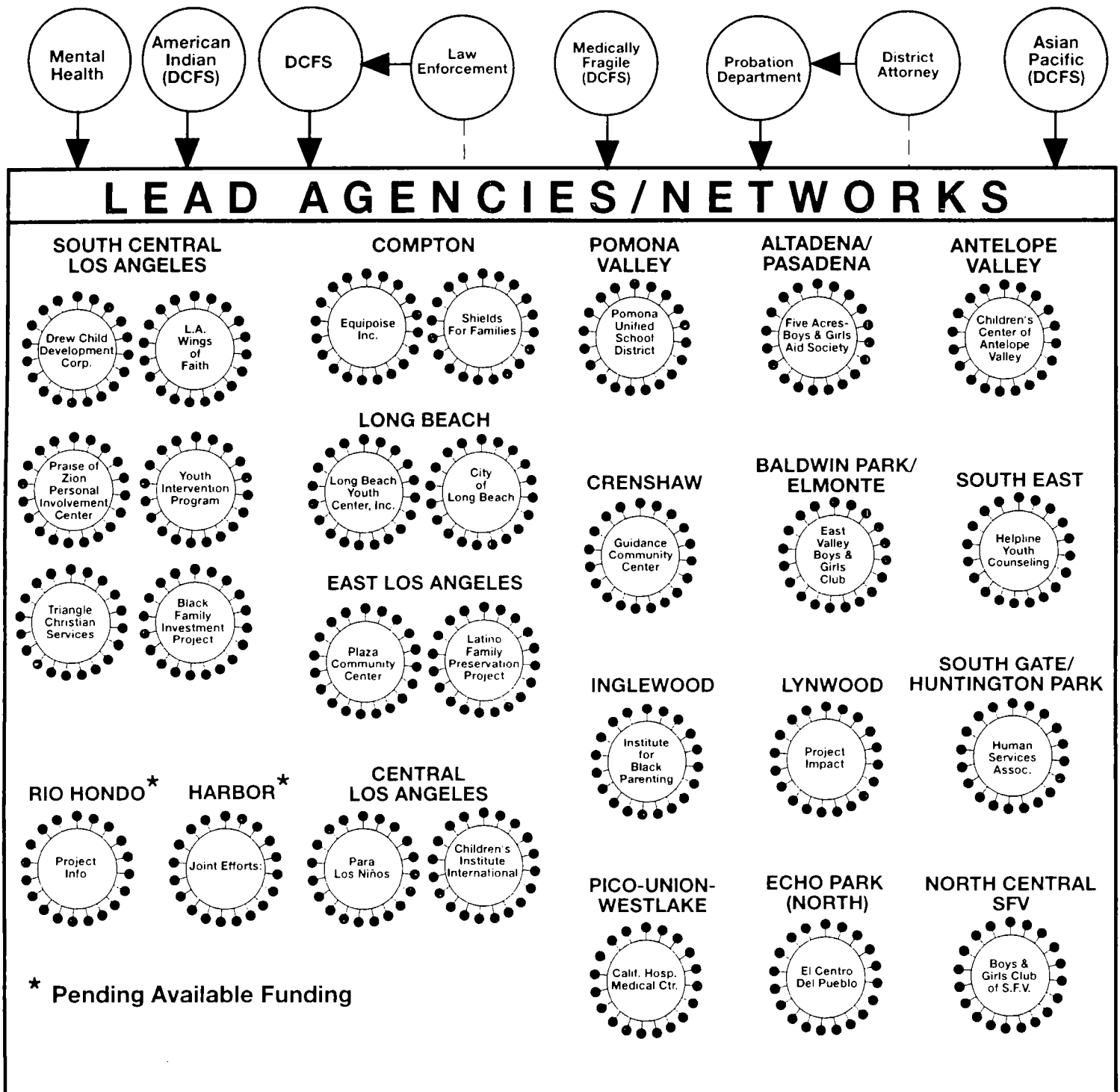
I firmly believe that we can enhance our ability to protect children by following the guidelines discussed in this Bulletin. By combining basic child protection steps with casework skills, we will be able to increase the safety of children in our County.



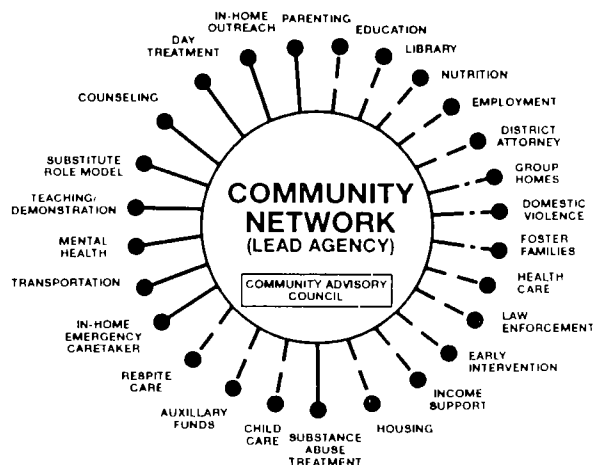
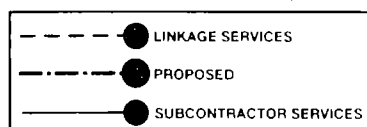
PETER DIGRE, DIRECTOR

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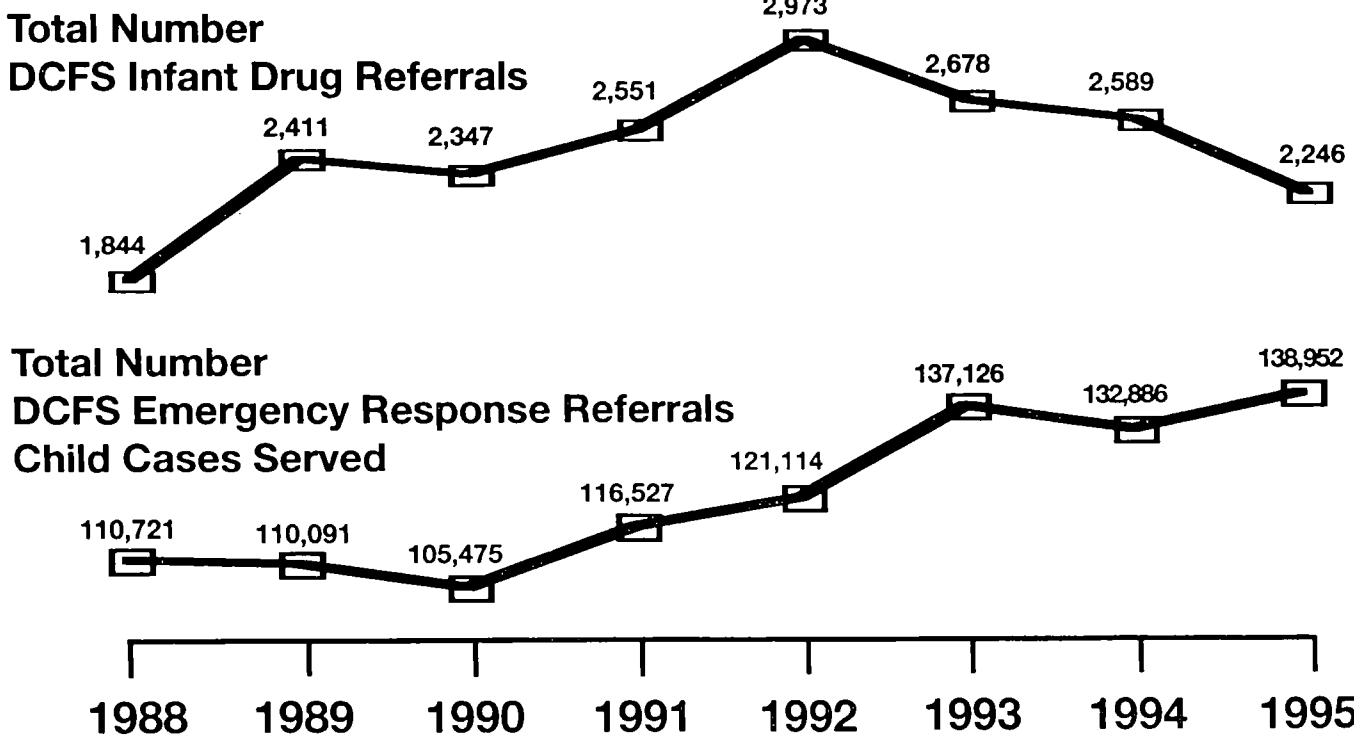
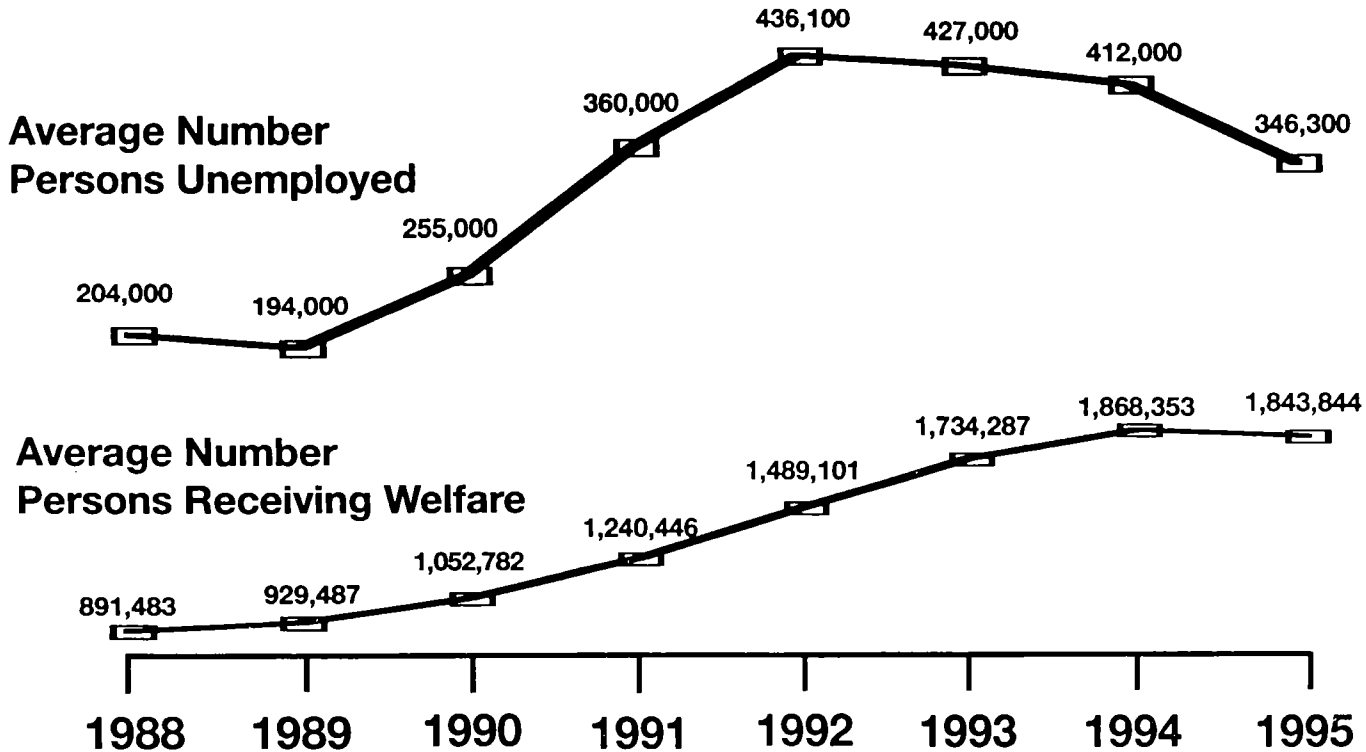
COMMUNITY FAMILY PRESERVATION NETWORKS



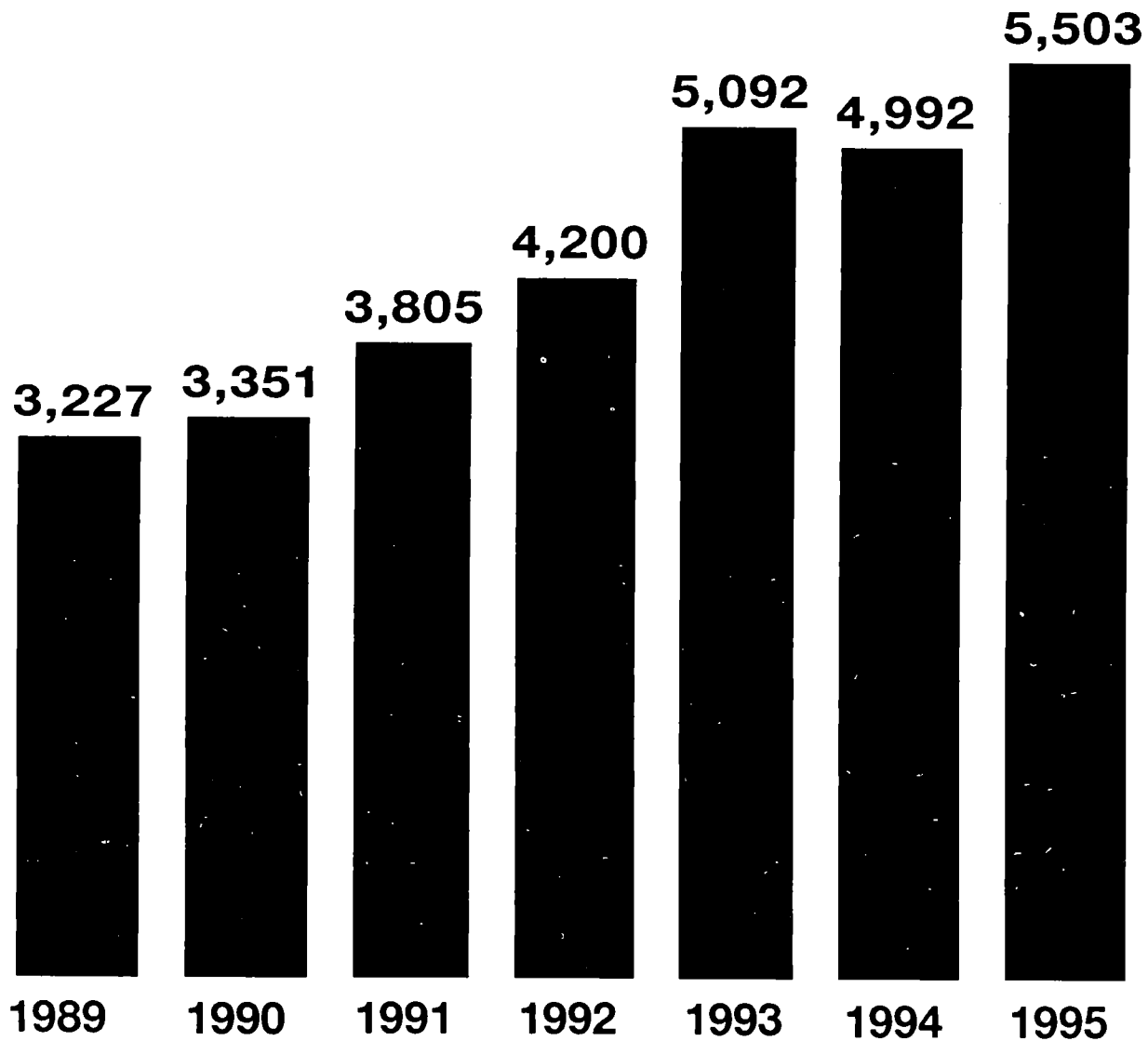
COMMUNITY NETWORK MODEL
(Services Provided)



Unemployment, Welfare, Infant Drug Referrals, Emergency Response Child Cases and Child Placement for Los Angeles County



**Average Monthly Emergency Response Services
for Physical Abuse
In The County of Los Angeles**



**Statistics Provided By the County of Los Angeles
Department of Children and Family Services**



NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JUVENILE AND FAMILY COURT JUDGES

UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA P.O. BOX 8970 RENO, NV 89507 702/784-6012 FAX 702/784-6628
1041 NORTH VIRGINIA STREET THIRD FLOOR RENO, NV 89557

October 28, 1996

Ms. Carol H. Rasco
Assistant to the President
for Domestic Policy
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Carol:

It was an honor having you and Lyn Hogan visit us last week. Your interest in and concern for our activities is deeply valued and appreciated.

We are especially anxious to work with you in the future, when matters relating to troubled children and families emerge for White House consideration.

Trusting your visit to Reno was pleasant and productive, I am, with kindest regards.

Yours respectfully,

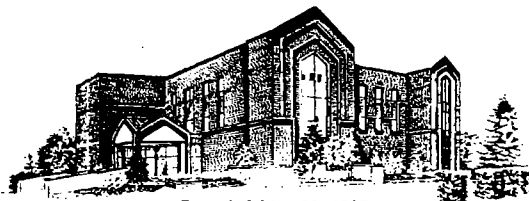
Louis W. McHardy
Executive Director
Dean, National College of
Juvenile and Family Law

LWMcH:tkos

cc: Ms. Lyn A. Hogan

bcc: All Officers
Thomas J. Madden

60th Annual Conference July 13-16, 1997 Big Sky, Montana



Founded May 22, 1937

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JUVENILE AND FAMILY COURT JUDGES

UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA P.O. BOX 8970 RENO NV 89507

1041 NORTH VIRGINIA STREET THIRD FLOOR RENO NV 89557

Ms. Lyn Hogan
Senior Policy Analyst
Domestic Policy Council
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500



meeting.

Carol/Jeremy,

Do you want to sit down before Thursday and briefly discuss the meeting? I imagine several questions will come up:

- 1) Is this the right time to do this given the Republican effort to block grant and eliminate the entitlement? Would this effort encourage or thwart Republican efforts?
- 2) How does this relate to the First Lady's adoption directive?
- 3) Does this set of proposals need more money? Is it for this budget cycle, or next? If for this budget cycle, can HHS move quickly enough to chart out the actual changes in law needed?
- 4) What are next steps after this meeting?

etc.

Child Welfare Chat Sessions.

On Oct. 31 we completed a series of seven small two hour discussion sessions in my office over the past three months. We talked with a total of 35 child welfare experts from around the country. In addition, in October we visited The National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges in Reno, NV during the Fall training session, sitting in on classes and meeting with faculty and participants.

We will now begin working to propose action steps in this field. Following is a full list of those we have met and talked with.

July 18

Marylee Allen
Senior Program Advisor
Children's Defense Fund
Washington, D.C.

Conna Craig
President and Founder
Institute For Children
Cambridge, MA

Kathleen Feely
Associate Director, Children and Family Systems Reform
Casey Foundation
Washington, D.C.

Dr. Alfred Kahn
Professor Emeritus
Columbia University School of Social Work
NY, NY

Jane Spinak
Attorney In Charge
Juvenile Rights Division
Legal Aid Society
NY, NY

August 8

Jess McDonald
Director
Illinois Department of Children and Family Services
Springfield, IL

Clarice Walker
President
National Black Child Development Institute
Washington, D.C.

Donald Schmidt
Director

North Dakota Dept, of Human Services
Bismark, ND

Laurie Rankin
Executive Vice President
Blatner Associates
Princeton, NJ

Sept 19

Thomas Curran, M.S.W., J.D.
Staff Attorney, Child Advocacy Unit of the
Defender Association of Philadelphia
Philadelphia, PA

Paul A. Mones
Attorney and Children's Advocate
Portland, Oregon

Susan Notkin
Director, Program For Children
Edna McConnell Clark Foundation
NY, NY

Desmond (Des) K. Runyan, M.D., DrPH
Professor of Social Medicine and Pediatrics
University of North Carolina
Chapel Hill, NC

Ricardo M. Urbina
U.S. District Court Judge and
Children and Families Advocate
United States Court House for the
District of Columbia

Sept 20

Terry Cross
Executive Director
National Indian Child Welfare Association
Portland, OR

Denise Leong
Licensed Social Worker IV
Queen Lili 'Uokalani Children's Center
Honolulu, Hawaii

Janet K. Motz
Child Protection Grants Program Administrator
Child Protection Unit
Division of Child Welfare
Colorado Department of Human Services
Denver, CO 80203

Adrian Rodriguez, M.S.W.
Founder

Positive Alternatives For Youth
Bowman Middle School
Plano, TX

Linda K. Tauber
Children's Social Worker III
County of Los Angeles,
Dept. of Social Services
Children's Services
Lancaster, CA

Oct. 21
Richard Barth, Ph.D
University of California
School of Social Welfare
Berkley, California

Howard Davidson, J.D., Director
ABA Center For Family and the Law
Washington, D.C.

Sheryl Dicker
Permanent Judicial Commission
On Justice For Children
White Plains, NY

Sheila Kamenman, Ph.D.
Compton Foundation Centennial Professor for the Prevention of
Children's and Youth's Problems
Columbia School of Social Work
New York, New York

Gary Stangler, Director
Missouri Department of Social Services
Jefferson City, Missouri

Oct. 30

Barbara B. Blum, President
Foundation for Child Development
New York, New York

David Liederman, Executive Director
Child Welfare League of America
Washington, D.C.

Bill Pierce, President
National Council for Adoption
Washington, D.C.

Betsey R. Rosenbaum, Director
Family and Child Welfare Services
American Public Welfare Association
Washington, D.C.

Oct. 31

**Marilyn Benoff, Medical/Executive Director
Devereaux Children's Center
Washington, D.C.**

**Marcia Lowry, Executive Director
Children's Rights, Inc.
New York, New York**

**Harold Richman, Center Director and Hermon Dunlap Smith Professor
Chapin Center for Children
University of Chicago
Chicago, Illinois**

**Paul Vincent
Child Welfare Policy and Practice Group
Montgomery, Alabama**

Met With Outside of the Chat Sessions

**Peter Digre
Director
Department of Children and Family Services
Los Angeles, CA**

**Frank Farrow
Director, Children's Services Policy
Center for the Study of Social Policy
Washington, D.C.**

**Ralph Smith
Director of Planning and Development
The Annie E. Casey Foundation
Baltimore, Maryland**

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

Confirmed Participants
Child Welfare Chat Session
August 8, 1996
1:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m.

Mr. Jess McDonald
Director
Illinois Department of
Children and Family Services
Springfield, IL
217-785-2509
217-785-1052 fax

Ms. Clarice Walker
President
National Black Child Development Institute
202-387-1281
202-234-1738 fax

Ms. Marjorie Smith
Commissioner
Dept of Medical Assistance
Atlanta, Georgia
404-656-4507
404-651-6880 fax

Mr. Donald Schmid
Director, Children and Family Services
North Dakota Department of Human Services
Bismarck, ND
701-328-4811
701-328-2359 fax

Laurie Rankin
Executive Vice President and Principal
Blätner Associates
Health and Human Services Consultants
Princeton, NJ
609-466-0200
609-466-1010 fax

> call to me

> details on
welfare
child and

Obert

5 members to be in the meeting

2 meetings Unintended - 10/10/96

Copy of
report

3 - adoption / sub case

copy 1

First Session

Marylee Allen
Senior Program Advisor
Children's Defense Fund
11 Constitution Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20224

Conna Craig
President and Founder
Institute For Children
18 Brattle St.
Cambridge, MA 02138

Kathleen Feely
Associate Director for Child and Family Systems Reform
Casey Foundation
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9th Floor
Washington, DC 20005

Dr. Alfred Kahn
Professor Emeritus
Columbia University School of Social Work
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New York, NY 10025

Jane Spinak
Attorney In Charge of
Juvenile Rights Division
Legal Aid Society
15 Park Rd.
New York, NY 10038

Mark Hardin -
202-662-1755 ✓

Kahn
212-854-4320 ✓

Jane Spink
212-406-~~08~~ 0437

CDF -
202-662-3550 ✓

Conna Craig
617-491-4673 ✓

Casey Foundation
410-223-2983 ✓

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001. list	Confirmed Participants; RE: SSNs/dates of birth/phone number/address [partial] (2 pages)	n.d.	P6/b(6)

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Clinton Presidential Records
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FOLDER TITLE:

Child Wel [Welfare] Chats Current [1]

2011-1010-S
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P6/(b)(6)

 $[001]$

Phone: (510) 642-4341 *642-8535 official*
Fax: (510) 643-6126 *NA*

P6/(b)(6)

P6/(b)(6)

P6/(b)(6)

P6/(b)(6)

W¹⁸ Hore d. 18
B. d. 18

Richard Barth, Ph.D
University of California
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Berkley, California 94720-7400
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Fax: (510) 643-6126

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American Bar Association
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Child Welfare League of America
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Fax: (202) 638-4004

Marcia Lowry, Executive Director
Children's Rights, Inc.
404 Park Avenue South
New York, New York 10016
Phone: (212) 683-2210
Fax: (212) 683-4015

Ruth Massinga, Chief Executive Officer
The Casey Family Program
1300 Dexter Avenue North, Suite 400
Seattle, Washington 98109-3547
Phone: (206) 282-7300 Ext.8600
Fax: (206) 282-3555
Ms. Massinga's Assistant: Herb Williams Ext. 8629

Bill Pierce, President
National Council for Adoption
1930 17th Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20009
Phone: (202) 328-1200
Fax: (202) 332-0935

Harold Richman, Center Director and Hermon Dunlap Smith Professor
Chapin Center for Children
University of Chicago
1313 East 60th Street
Chicago, Illinois 60637
Phone: (312) 753-2580
Fax: (312) 753-5940
Note: The area code for the phone and fax numbers will change
effective October 12, 1996.

Betsey R. Rosenbaum, Director
Family and Child Welfare Services
American Public Welfare Association
810 First Street, N.E., Suite 500
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Phone: (202) 683-0100
Fax: (202) 289-6555

Ralph Smith
Director of Planning and Development
The Annie E. Casey Foundation
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Baltimore, Maryland 21202
Phone: (410) 547-6600
Fax: (410) 547-6624

[001]

Gary Stangler, Director
Missouri Department of Social Services
P.O. Box 1527
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102
Phone: (573) 443-5477
Fax: (573) 751-3203

Paul Vincent
Child Welfare Policy and Practice Group

P6/(b)(6)

Phone (Home and Work):
Fax:

P6/(b)(6)

9/8/96

Title
name spelling
address
phone / fax

Jeremy has indicated that we might want to think about finishing up the child welfare chat discussions and moving forward. Before we wrap up however, there are several people we should speak with, if not for information, at least for political reasons.

As you know, the child welfare community is actually pretty small -- word of the chats spread quickly. There are several senior experts we have yet to talk with whom I am sure we will want on our side when we move forward on this project. The following is a list of those experts I think we should meet with. To save time, we could meet in larger groups--but I think if we skip any of these folks, it could cause problems down the line.

Please let me know how I should proceed.

Thanks.

Rick Barth
U.C. Berkley

Marilyn Benoit
Devereux Children's Center of Washington

Angela Blackwell
Vice President
Rockefeller Foundation
(She had to regret an earlier invitation, but really wants to meet with you)

Barbara Bloom
Foundation For Child Development

Frank Farrow
Center For the Study of Social Policy

Dr. Shelia Kamerman
Columbia University School of Social Work

David Liederman
Child Welfare League

Marsha Lowry
Children's Rights Project

Ruth Massinga
The Casey Family Program

Bill Pierce
National Committee For Adoption

Harold Richmond
University of Chicago
Chapin Hall Center For Children

Betsy Rosenbaum

Someone from Kellogg
Clark,
Casey
(art improvement project)

~~Abel House~~ Howard Davidson, ABA

American Public Welfare Association

Ralph Smith
Casey Family Services

Gary Stangler
Missourri Dept. of Social Services

Paul Vincent
Previously ran Alabama's Dept. of Social Services

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- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

Confirmed Participants, DPC Child Welfare Discussion Sessions

Thursday, September 19, 1:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m.

Thomas Curran, M.S.W., J.D., staff attorney in the Child Advocacy Unit of the Defender Association of Philadelphia, 70 N. 17th St., Philadelphia, PA 19100 or 19103, 215-568-3190, P6/(b)(6)

Paul A. Mones, Attorney and Children's Advocate, 503-225-1054; 503-225-0102 (fax); Portland, Oregon, P6/(b)(6)

Susan Notkin, Director of Program For Children, Edna McConnell Clark Foundation, 250 Park Ave., Suite 900, NY, NY 10177-0026, 212-551-9100, 212-986-4558 (fax), P6/(b)(6)

Desmond (Des) K. Runyan, M.D., DrPH, Professor of Social Medicine and Pediatrics, University of North Carolina, Department of Social Medicine, Wing D of the Medical School, Room 381, CB#7240, Chapel Hill, NC 27599-7240, 919-962-1136, 919-966-7499 (fax), P6/(b)(6)

P6/(b)(6)

Ricardo M. Urbina, U.S. District Court Judge and Children and Families Advocate, United States Court House for the District of Columbia, 333 Constitution Ave., NW, Chambers 4311, Washington, D.C., 20001, 202-273-0576, 202-273-0328 (fax), P6/(b)(6)

Friday, September 20, 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

Jane Beveridge, Child Welfare Manager, Child Protection Unit, Colorado Department of Human Services, 1575 Sherman, 2nd Floor, Denver, CO 80203, 303-866-5951, 303-866-2214 (fax) **Not yet confirmed**

Larry T. Douglas, Community Development Coordinator, National Indian Child Welfare Association, 3611 Southwest Hood St., Suite 201, Portland, OR, 97201, 503-222-4044; 503-222-4007 (fax);

P6/(b)(6)

Denise Leong, Queen Lili 'Uokalani Children's Center, Honolulu, Hawaii, 808-847-7991; 808-841-6449 (fax)

Mr. Adrian Rodriguez, M.S.W., Founder, Positive Alternatives For Youth, Bowman Middle School, 2501 Jupter Rd., Plano, TX 75074-4828, 214-519-8881, Ext. 4727, 214-519-8920 (fax),

Linda K. Tauber, Children's Social Worker III, County of Los Angeles, Dep. of Social Services, Children's Services, Lancaster, CA 93534, 805-945-0942 (phone and fax)

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Susan Notkin, Director of Program For Children, Edna McConnell Clark Foundation, 250 Park Ave., Suite 900, NY, NY 10177-0026, 212-551-9100, 212-986-4558 (fax), P6/(b)(6)

Desmond (Des) K. Runyan, M.D., DrPH, Professor of Social Medicine and Pediatrics, University of North Carolina, Department of Social Medicine, Wing D of the Medical School, Room 381, CB#7240, Chapel Hill, NC 27599-7240, 919-962-1136, 919-966-7499 (fax),

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Ricardo M. Urbina, U.S. District Court Judge and Children and Families Advocate, United States Court House for the District of Columbia, 333 Constitution Ave., NW, Chambers 4311, Washington, D.C., 20001, 202-273-0576, 202-273-0328 (fax), P6/(b)(6)

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Denise Leong, Liscensed Social Worker IV, Queen Lili 'Uokalani Children's Center, 1300 A Halona St., Honolulu, Hawaii, 96817 808-847-7991; 808-841-6449 (fax); P6/(b)(6)

Janet K. Motz, Child Protection Grants Program Administrator, Child Protection Unit, Division of Child Welfare, Colorado Department of Human Services, 1575 Sherman, 2nd Floor, Denver, CO 80203, 303-866-5137, 303-866-2214 (fax), P6/(b)(6)

Mr. Adrian Rodriguez, M.S.W., Founder, Positive Alternatives For Youth, Bowman Middle School, 2501 Jupter Rd., Plano, TX 75074-4828, 214-519-8881, Ext. 4727, 214-519-8920 (fax), DOB:

Linda K. Tauber, Children's Social Worker III, County of Los Angeles, Dep. of Social Services, Children's Services, 45465 Leatherwood Ave., Lancaster, CA 93534, 805-945-0942 (phone and fax), P6/(b)(6)

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Edna McConnell Clark Foundation
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212-551-9100, 212-986-4558 (fax)

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805-945-0942 (phone and fax)

Linda - adoption
- Healthy Families - Hawaiian Model
- CIVITAS

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Terry Cross
Executive Director
National Indian Child Welfare Association
Portland, OR

Denise Leong
Licensed Social Worker IV
Queen Lili 'Uokalani Children's Center
Honolulu, Hawaii

Janet K. Motz
Child Protection Grants Program Administrator
Child Protection Unit
Division of Child Welfare
Colorado Department of Human Services
Denver, CO

Adrian Rodriguez, M.S.W.
Founder
Positive Alternatives For Youth
Bowman Middle School
Plano, TX

Linda K. Tauber
Children's Social Worker III
County of Los Angeles,
Dept. of Social Services
Children's Services
Lancaster, CA

From the White House

Carol Hampton Rasco
Assistant to the President
for Domestic Policy

Lester Cash
Program Examiner
OMB

Jeremy Ben-Ami
Deputy Assistant to the President
for Domestic Policy

Lyn A. Hogan
Senior Policy Analyst
Domestic Policy Council

Jennifer Klein
Special Assistant to the
President for Domestic Policy

From HHS

Carol Williams
Associate Commissioner
HHS

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add A list

[004]

Chat List, confirmed

Mary Lee Allen
Children's Defense Fund

P6/(b)(6)

Conna Craig
President and Founder
Institute For Children
Cambridge, MA
617-491-4614

P6/(b)(6)

Kathleen Feely
Casey Foundation
410-547-6600
Good on dollars to states for reforms

P6/(b)(6)

Mark Hardin
Director, Child Welfare
ABA Center On Children and the Law
202-662-1740

P6/(b)(6)

Dr. Alfred Kahn
Professor
Columbia University School of Social Work
212-854-5449
212-854-4320(fax)

P6/(b)(6)

Jane Spinak
Attorney In Charge of
Juvenile Rights Division
(40,000 children move through her division each year)
Legal Aid Society
On leave from Columbia University School of Law where she teaches
Family Law and runs a legal clinic for children and families

P6/(b)(6)

Others To Invite

Leonard Dustin
National Association of Black Social Workers

P6/(b)(6)

313-862-6700 (w)
Detroit, MI

[004]

Betsy Rosenbaum 3
APWA
202-682-0100

Clarice D. Walker
President
National Black Child Development Institute
DC

Terry Cross
Involved with the national child welfare system for Indians
Portland, OR

Ruth Massinga
The Casey Family Program
Seattle, Washington
long-term foster care planning
206-282-7300

Ralph Smith
Casey Family Services
CT
203-929-3837

Gary Stangler 3
Director
Missourri Dept. of Social Services
P6(b)(6)
573-751-4815

Barbara Blum 3
Foundation For Child Development
talked with her, couldn't make July 18 discussion but would love
to talk with us anytime

Sheryl Dicker
Permanenet Judicial Commission on Justice For Children
914-422-4425

Shelia Kamerman 3
Columbia University School of Social Work
212-854-5449
Invited to first dicussion, out of the country

Gene Flango or Pam Petrakis
W.K. Kellogg Foundation
Project, "Improving Courts Handling of Foster Care and Adoption
Cases"
313-875-3400

Bob Swartz
Juvenile Law Center

Philadelphia, PA
215-625-0551
215-625-9589 (fax)

Child Welfare League of America
David Liederman
DC

Bill Pierce
National Commission For Adoption
DC
215-625-0551

Jim Giribino
University of Connecticut

Sandra Chapungo
Associate Dean
Catholic Univeristy
School of Social Work

Gerome Hanley
Commissioner of Mental Health
South Carolina
(has done a lot of work on child welfare)

Robert Pratski
National Council for Juvenile Family Judges
Reno, Nevada

Peter (or Paul?) Digree
Child Welfare Administrator
Los Angeles, CA

Michael Wald
Director
Child Welfare Agency
San Fran, CA
Former Professor
Stanford Univeristy Law School

Angela Blackwell
VP
The Rockefeller Foundation
212-869-8500
spoke with her, very interested but couldn't make it

Susan Notkin
Edna McConell Clark Foundation
212-551-9100
expert on community-based child protection system

Marsha Lowry
Children's Rights Project
212-944-9800

Director of Medicaid
North Carolina

Judge Ernestine S. Gray
Orleans Parish Juvenile Court
New Orleans, LA
504-565-7300

Sister Mary Paul Janchill
Director
Clinical Services
Center For Family Life in Sunset Park
Brooklyn, NY
718-788-3500

Rick Barth
UC Berkley

Judge Mitchell
Baltimore, MD
juvenile court judge

Shelly Smith
National Council of State Legislatures
Denver, CO
303-830-2200

Donald Schmid
Director
Children and Family Services Division
North Dakota Department of Human Services
Bismark, ND
701-328-2310

Judge Leonard Edwards
San Jose, CA
Has done a lot in child welfare: writing, work in the courts, was
director of association of California judges

Harold Richmond ●
Prof.
Chapin Hall Center For Children
University of Chicago
312-702-1234
Spoke with him, really wanted to come but his schedule wouldn't
permit it
He comes highly recommended

Bernadette Dorn or Bruce Blair
Clinic On Family Law
Northwestern Univeristy
Evanstan, IL

Ted Stein
Professor
SUNY School of Social Work
expert on law suits, good on system reform

Marilyn Benoit
Devereux Children's Center of Washington
202-282-1200

Gene Jouinoni
School of Social Work
UCLA

7/23

M E M O R A N D U M

To: Jeremy Ben-Ami cc: Carol Rasco
 Jennifer Klein
 Nicole Rabner
 Diana Fortuna

From: Lyn Hogan

Date: 7/11/96

Re: List of child welfare experts

As discussed in our meeting, attached is a rough and preliminary list of potential participants in the informal discussion sessions Carol, Jeremy and I are putting together on the child welfare system.

Everyone on the list is either someone I have worked with in the past or someone who comes highly recommended. If anyone has additional suggestions, questions, or comments, please pass them on to me. I'll continue to develop the list over the next month.

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005. list	Chat List Confirmed for July 18; RE: dates of birth/phone number [partial] (3 pages)	n.d.	P6/b(6)

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Lyn Hogan
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an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
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b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial
information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of
personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement
purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of
financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information
concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

Chat List, confirmed for July 18

[005]

Marylee Allen
Senior Program Advisor
Children's Defense Fund
202-662-3573

P6/(b)(6)

Conna Craig
President and Founder
Institute For Children
Cambridge, MA
617-491-4614

P6/(b)(6)

Kathleen Feely
Casey Foundation
410-547-6600
Good on dollars to states for reforms

P6/(b)(6)

Mark Hardin
Director, Child Welfare
ABA Center On Children and the Law
202-662-1740

P6/(b)(6)

Dr. Alfred Kahn
Professor
Columbia University School of Social Work
212-854-5449
212-854-4320(fax)

P6/(b)(6)

Jane Spinak
Attorney In Charge of
Juvenile Rights Division
(40,000 children move through her division each year)
Legal Aid Society
On leave from Columbia University School of Law where she teaches
Family Law and has run a legal clinic for children and families
212-577-3300

P6/(b)(6)

Others To Invite

[005]

Marilyn Benoit
Devereux Children's Center of Washington
202-282-1200

Angela Blackwell
VP
The Rockefeller Foundation
212-869-8500
spoke with her, very interested but couldn't make it

Rick Barth
UC Berkley

Barbara Blum
Foundation For Child Development
talked with her, couldn't make July 18 discussion but would love
to talk with us anytime

Sandra Chapungo
Associate Dean
Catholic University
School of Social Work

Terry Cross
Involved with the national child welfare system for Indians
Portland, OR

Sheryl Dicker
Permanent Judicial Commission on Justice For Children
914-422-4425

~~Peter~~ (or Paul?) Digree
Child Welfare Administrator
Los Angeles, CA

Bernadette Dorn
or Bruce Blair
Clinic On Family Law
Northwestern Univeristy
Evanston, IL

Leornard Dustin
National Association of Black Social Workers

P6(b)(6)
313-862-6700 (w)
Detroit, MI
Call into him.

Judge Leonard Edwards
San Jose, CA

Has done a lot in child welfare: writing, work in the courts, was
director of association of California judges

Gene Flango
or Pam Petrakis
W.K. Kellogg Foundation
Project, "Improving Courts Handling of Foster Care and Adoption
Cases"
313-875-3400

Jim Giribino
University of Connecticut

Judge Ernestine S. Gray
Orleans Parish Juvenile Court
New Orleans, LA
504-565-7300

Gerome Hanley
Commissioner of Mental Health
South Carolina
(has done a lot of work on child welfare)

Sister Mary Paul Janchill
Director
Clinical Services
Center For Family Life in Sunset Park
Brooklyn, NY
718-788-3500

Gene Jouinoni
School of Social Work
UCLA

Shelia Kamerman
Columbia University School of Social Work
212-854-5449
Invited to first discussion, out of the country

David Liederman
Child Welfare League of America
DC

Marsha Lowry A.C.W.
Children's Rights Project
212-944-9800

Ruth Massinga
The Casey Family Program
Seattle, Washington

long-term foster care planning
206-282-7300

Barbara Matula ~~left message~~
Director, Division of Medical Assistance
Department of Human Resources
North Carolina
919-733-2060
919-733-6608 fax

- talked with her, knows
Carol R. from NGA days,
very good on child welfare,
medicaid

Judge Mitchell
Baltimore, MD
juvenile court judge

Susan Notkin
Edna McConell Clark Foundation
212-551-9100
expert on community-based child protection system

Bill Pierce
National Commission For Adoption
DC
215-625-0551 ~~NOT AT THIS #~~

Michael Piraino
Chief Executive Officer
CASA
Seattle, WA
206-270-0072

Spoke with him earlier re: his work with CASA. Has been involved in child welfare reform via the foster care system for some time. Very knowledgeable. I didn't mention the discussion sessions to him, but should have him come in.

Robert Pratski
National Council for Juvenile Family Judges
Reno, Nevada

- Lori L. Rankin
Executive Vice President
Blatner, Associates, Inc.
Health & Human Services Consultants
83 Princeton Ave., Suite 2C
Hopewell, NJ 08525
609-466-0200
609-466-1010 fax

Harold Richmond
Prof. (312)
Chapin Hall Center For Children 753-5900
University of Chicago
312-702-1234

Spoke with him, really wanted to come but his schedule wouldn't permit it. He comes highly recommended

Betsy Rosenbaum

APWA

202-682-0100

Spoke with her generally about child welfare reforms and the court system, did not mention the discussion sessions because I had already confirmed six people. Though she seems very good, we should invite to the next session.

Donald Schmid

Director

Children and Family Services Division

North Dakota Department of Human Services

Bismark, ND

701-328-2310

Ralph Smith

Casey Family Services

CT

203-929-3837

Shelly Smith

National Council of State Legislatures

Denver, CO

303-830-2200

Gary Stangler

Director

Missouri Dept. of Social Services

P6(b)(6)

573-751-4815 (w)

Call into him.

Ted Stein

Professor

SUNY School of Social Work

expert on law suits, good on system reform

Bob Swartz

Juvenile Law Center

Philadelphia, PA

215-625-0551

215-625-9589 (fax)

Clarice D. Walker

President, *Black Child Development Institute*

National Black Child Development Institute

DC

202-387-1881

*General
system reform
obligation
Carts*

Michael Wald
Director
Child Welfare Agency
San Fran, CA
Former Professor
Stanford Univeristy Law School