From:	Matthews, Sharron </O=STATE OF ILLINOIS/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=SHARRON.MATTHEWS>
Sent:	Tuesday, August 24, 2010 11:10 PM
To:	gmaterre@ihda.org; Ocasio, Billy <Billy.Ocasio@Illinois.gov>; Irving, Toni <Toni.Irving@Illinois.gov>; Kamis, John <John.Kamis@Illinois.gov>; Foster, Cory <Cory.Foster@Illinois.gov>; Holmes, Michael <Michael.A.Holmes@illinois.gov>; Enyia, Chimaobi <Chimaobi.Enyia@Illinois.gov>
Subject:	DCFS and Saftey Net Works

FYI-Safety Net Works Program

Department Of Children And Family Services

www.state.il.us/dcfs
406 East Monroe
Springfield, IL 62701
217.785.2509

OVERVIEW

Agency Mission

To protect children who are reported to be abused or neglected and to increase their families' capacity to safely care for them. The agency will provide for the well-being of the children in our care and provide appropriate, permanent families as quickly as possible for those children who cannot safely return home. The agency will support early intervention and child abuse prevention activities. We will work in partnership with communities to fulfill this mission.

Strategic Priorities

- Ensure child safety.
- Provide family maintenance and reunification.
- Increase permanency.
- Promote placement stability.
- Enhance health care.
- Increase mental health services.

Summary of Agency Operations

The Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) provides child welfare services in Illinois. The department conducts investigations of suspected child abuse and neglect, provides substitute care services for children who have been abused or neglected, finds permanent placements through adoption or guardianship arrangements for children who cannot return home, provides family preservation and reunification services, prepares youth for independence, and licenses day care facilities.

Agency Resources Employed

FY 2008 FY 2009 FY 2010
Actual Enacted Recommended
General Funds 896,822.4 864,986.3 899,307.6
Other State Funds 432,099.3 455,066.8 430,375.5
Federal Funds 8,811.3 8,067.6 8,067.6
Total 1,337,732.9 1,328,120.7 1,337,750.7
Actual Estimated Recommended
Headcount (FTE) 3,121.0 2,917.0 3,091.0
Appropriations ($ thousands)
Fund Category

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- **Collaborated with other state and local agencies to better serve Illinois' youth and their families.** The department, in cooperation with other state agencies, providers and child

advocacy organizations, has: increased the capacity of Early Education Centers; strengthened the Families Illinois Program to implement the national model of child abuse prevention; and improved the Juvenile Justice Models of Change program to better serve youth involved with both the departments of Children and Family Services and Juvenile Justice.

 Introduced Safety Net Works Program. The program's goal is to reduce levels of youth violence in 17 target communities. To achieve this, DCFS has modified the Child Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) assessment tool for use by community coalition partners to identify youth at-risk of becoming violent. In addition, DCFS provides partners with access and assistance on the department's Statewide Provider Database, a comprehensive searchable database of community based organizations that offer support services and treatment to children and families throughout Illinois.