

Child Welfare League of America, Inc.

2015 ANNUAL REPORT



LETTER FROM THE CEO

am happy to provide our annual report for 2015. This year was again filled with change, challenge and opportunity. We continued our focus on advancing the National Blueprint for Excellence in Child Welfare through our policy and practice work. The National Blueprint challenges us to advance a collaborative approach to addressing the needs of children, youth, and families and to leverage the knowledge and resources gained

from families, communities, and other systems that can contribute to better outcomes for children and families. In this regard, we continued our work on kinship and launched new work on father engagement and faith-based partnerships with child welfare agencies. Through our focus on substance use and its impact on children and families in the child welfare system, we are encouraging collaboration with the behavioral health community.

This was also a year where we expanded our position in the global community through an extraordinary visit to Cuba and an exciting new partnership that will make our kinship curriculum and training available in countries around the world.

I am especially pleased to say that we have continued to carry out our policy and practice work in collaboration with others. We are deeply indebted to our numerous partners whose expertise, resources, and connections we were able to leverage to achieve our work this year.

On behalf of CWLA's employees and board, I am proud to submit this report that provides only the highlight of our work in 2015.

Christine James Brown

Christine James-Brown President and CEO

Mission, Vision and Focus

OUR MISSION

CWLA leads and engages its network of public and private agencies and partners to advance policies, best practices, and collaborative strategies that result in better outcomes for children, youth, and families that are vulnerable.

THE VISION

Our vision is that every child will grow up in a safe, loving, and stable family.

THE FOCUS

Our focus is children and youth who may have experienced abuse, neglect, family disruption, or a range of other factors that jeopardize their safety, permanence, or well-being. CWLA also focuses on the families, caregivers, and the communities that care for and support these children.

WHAT MAKES CWLA UNIQUE?

CWLA is a coalition of over 400 public and private organizations and individuals. CWLA's national programs and expertise reflect the scope of our member agencies' services by spanning a range of community services designed to strengthen and support parents, families, and children.

These services include: adoption, adolescent pregnancy prevention and teen parenting, child day care, child protection, children affected by incarceration, family foster care, group residential care, housing and homelessness, kinship care, juvenile justice, mental health, positive youth development, substance abuse prevention and treatment, and community-based services. CWLA actively involves young people and family members and engages them as active participants in our efforts to support and improve the field of child welfare.

HISTORICAL COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE IN CHILD WELFARE PRACTICE

ment to children and families, starting with advocacy for laws protecting children in the workplace, encouraging childhood immunizations, and supporting families with homemaker services and child care. Over the last 60 plus years, a clear need for practice improvement led CWLA to focus on strengthening practice within the nation's child welfare systems. To that end we established, promoted and maintained, *Standards of Excellence* that have served as a foundation for best practices and the definition of quality in child welfare practice. It is increasingly clear, however, that evidenced-based practice needs to be more evenly applied and that the child welfare system alone cannot solve the problems of children and families. It must work within the community context and with the understanding that what happens to vulnerable children is very interconnected with how the nation treats children and families as a whole.

Since our founding in 1920, CWLA has fulfilled a commit-

FOCUS FOR THE FUTURE

With the recent introduction of our *National Blueprint for Excellence in Child Welfare*, CWLA returns to its original broad, holistic approach. It

starts with the vision for all children recognizing that we must look at how to improve outcomes for vulnerable children within that context. Continuing CWLA's role as the credible and neutral advocate for practice excellence, the *National Blueprint* is premised on promoting collaboration among all stakeholders. By continuing to serve as a thought leader and expert in practice excellence, CWLA will facilitate a national conversation around the importance and value of collaboration and coordination of effort in protecting the nation's children. To that end, CWLA will provide printed publications, and other communication mechanisms, resources, training, and consulting services to a broader membership base, empowering all stakeholders with knowledge of and access to evidence-based best practices.

SELECT KEY ACTIVITIES IN 2014-2015

1. Broadly promoted the *National Blueprint for Excellence in Child Welfare* by identifying and showcasing agency programs and services that are aligned with the Blueprint, conducting sessions at CWLA and other conferences to build support for the Blueprint, and revamping the format for our consultation reports and training curriculum to reflect the Blueprint. We are currently developing implementation tools and guidelines for agencies that want to align their programs and services with the Blueprint.

2. Worked in partnership with the Administration for Children and Families—Region 3, Stoneleigh Foundation, Bryn Mawr College—Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research, and the American Bar Association, Center on Children and the Law to sponsor the National Call to Action, a national, regional and local

partnership designed to increase responsible father engagement across multiple systems of care including: behavioral health, education, child welfare, legal and juvenile justice systems. In addition, produced a special extended session on Fatherhood at the CWLA National Conference that featured a discussion of the *National Blueprint* and its relevance to the fatherhood movement and innovative initiatives that link fatherhood initiatives and child welfare.

3. Established a committee to provide guidance and support to encourage child welfare organizations to leverage the capacity of the faith-based community to support child well-being. Secured a master's level student intern from the Princeton Theological Seminary to help support this effort.

4. Developed a partnership with Northwest Media Inc. to expand the availability of our nationally known *PRIDE Model of Practice* curriculum and training that are designed to provide additional knowledge and resources for foster parents through its FosterParent-College.com.

5. Formed an international partnership with Hopes and Homes for Children based in the United Kingdom to expand the availability of our recently developed curriculum and training for kinship caregivers. The training was tested at an international conference and the program will be piloted in Hungry and Romania.

6. Continued to develop and release special editions of our award winning, peer reviewed *Child Welfare* journals focused on child welfare and housing/family stability, research to practice, substance use and its impact on child welfare (two issues), Kinship Navigator, Family Connections, child fatality, and current kinship research and practice issues.

- 7. Working to update the CWLA website to ensure that it reflects the organizations new strategic direction, increases in value to members, media, researchers and others, facilitates sales of CWLA products and services that promote the National Blueprint.
- Offered a series of webinars and related issue papers on important topics such as the rights of children related to organ transplants, should medical marijuana be used with children and adolescents, and key issues in kinship care. Partnered with the National Child Traumatic Stress Network to develop and offer a series of webinars pertaining to the impact of trauma on child welfare.
- 9. Planned and presented a National Conference in 2015 and currently working in partnership with Children and Family Futures to organize a 2016 National Conference on the issue of how substance use impacts child welfare.
- 10. Developed and advanced a legislative agenda and related policy position papers aligned with the National Blueprint and held an Advocacy Conference in 2014, an Advocacy Day at the National Conference in 2015 and planning an Advocacy Conference for 2016.
- 11. Finalized or in process of finalizing publications on sex trafficking, LGBTQ adoption, trauma, and two children's books.

Visit www.cwla.org to view our current IRS Form 990.

OUR MEMBERSHIP

ALASKA

Alaska Department of Health and Social Services Child Welfare Academy, University of Alaska-Anchorage

ALABAMA

Alabama Department of Human Resources Children's Aid Society Christian Services for Children in Alabama Gateway

ARKANSAS

Arkansas Advocates for Children and Families Arkansas Department of Human Services University of Arkansas at Little Rock

ARIZONA

Arizona Partnership for Children Casa de los Ninos Casey Family Programs – Arizona Office Christian Family Care Agency Devereux Arizona Johnson, Dana Klaehn, Robert L. Nicholes, Ericka Tennant, Megan

BERMUDA

Bermuda Department of Child and Family Services

CALIFORNIA

A Home Within
Access
Ark Homes Foster Family Agency
California Alliance of Child
& Family Services

California Department of Social Services, Children & Family Services Division Casey Family Programs – Bay Area Field Office Casey Family Programs – Los Angeles County Field Office Casey Family Programs – San Diego Field Office Center for Human Services Central California Training Academy Children and Family Futures, Inc. Children's Bureau of Southern California Children's Institute, Inc. Community Access Network Consortium for Children Contra Costa County Employment and Human Services Department County of Sacramento, Department of Health & Human Services County of Santa Barbara, Department of Social Services Drew Child Development Corporation **EMO** Families First **Extraordinary Families** Fresno County Department of Social Services Grandparents As Parents, Inc. Hathaway-Sycamores Child and Family Services Hillsides Human Services Agency of San Mateo County John Burton Foundation for Children Without Homes Kern County Department of Human Services Latino Family Institute, Inc. Los Angeles County Department of Children & Family Services Luvlee's Residential Care, Inc. Merced County Human Services Agency

North Star Family Center

Orange County Social Services Agency Rosemary Children's Services San Bernardino County Department of Children and Family Services San Luis Obispo County Department of Social Services Santa Clara County Social Services Agency School of Social Work, California State University, Long Beach Trinity Youth Services Green, Tonika Duren Iniguez, Roseanne Jackson, Gail Myers, Raquelle Nichols, Mary Alvin Schilling, Mary C. Turrentine, Naomi

COLORADO

Casey Family Programs - Indian Child Welfare Program Colorado Association of Family & Children's Agencies Colorado Office of the Child's Representative Denver Department of Human Services Devereux Cleo Wallace Eagle County Children, Family & Adult Services Jefferson Hills Tennyson Center for Children at Colorado Christian Home Third Way Center, Inc. Brasher, Sheri Szeles Hodge, Lee

CONNECTICUT

Community Residences, Inc. Connecticut Association of Foster and Adoptive Parents, Inc. Connecticut Association of Nonprofits, Inc. Connecticut Department of Children and Families Connecticut Junior Republic The Connection, Inc.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

American Institutes for Research Anthem Inc. District of Columbia Child and Family Services Agency Episcopal Center for Children Family Matters of Greater Washington Human Rights Campaign Foundation National Children's Alliance SOS Children's Villages – USA Voice for Adoption O'Grady, Kathryne

DELAWARE

Delaware Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families Gillette, Bruce Stancell, Melanie R.

FLORIDA

4Kids of South Florida, Inc. Center for Family and Child Enrichment, Inc. CHARLEE of Dade County, Inc. ChildNet, Inc. Children's Campaign, Inc. Children's Services Council of Broward County Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County Devereux Florida Families First of Palm Beach County Family Support Services of North Florida, Inc. Florida Coalition for Children Florida Department of Children and Families

Florida Network of Youth and Family Services Heartland for Children Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County Miami Bridge Youth & Family Services, Inc. Miami-Dade Community Action and Human Services Department Neighbor To Family, Inc. Our Kids of Miami-Dade/Monroe, Inc. Partnership for Strong Families Pasco Kids First The Ounce of Prevention Fund of Florida Blanco, Isabel Laitman, James Marinaro, NJ Shiffman, Howard Tatterson, Bryan R. Watford, Charles Russell

GEORGIA

CHRIS Kids
FaithBridge Foster Care
Georgia Department of Human
Services, Family & Children Services
Multi-Agency Alliance for Children, Inc.
Together Georgia
Whitley, Deborah

HAWAII

Consuelo Foundation Family Programs Hawaii

Iowa

Children and Families of Iowa Coalition for Family and Children's Services in Iowa

IDAHO

Casey Family Programs — Idaho Office PATH Idaho

ILLINOIS

Ada S. McKinley Community Services Chicago Child Care Society Child Care Association of Illinois ChildServ Firman Community Services Healthcare Consortium of Illinois Hoyleton Youth and Family Services Illinois Department of Children and Family Services Jane Addams College of Social Work, University of Illinois-Chicago Kemmerer Village

Kemmerer Village Maryville Academy Flammini, Ami Sharp, Jackie

INDIANA

Choices
Coordinated
Care Solutions
Indiana
Association of
Resources and
Child Advocacy
Indiana
Department
of Child Services
The Villages
of Indiana Foundation
The Villages of Indiana, Inc.

KANSAS

Children's Alliance of Kansas Saint Francis Community Services, Inc.

KENTUCKY

Boys and Girls Haven Children's Alliance Kentucky Department for Community Based Services University of Kentucky, College of Social Work Ratliff, Stephanie

Louisiana

Jewish Children's Regional Service
Kingsley House
Louisiana Association of Children
and Family Agencies
Louisiana Department of Children
and Family Services
Raintree Children and Family Services
Tulane University School of Social Work
Youth Empowerment Project
Hammack, Bill
Hood-Mucker, Lisa

MASSACHUSETTS Berkshire Children

and Families, Inc.
Boston University
School of
Social Work
Center for Human
Development, Inc.
Children's League
of Massachusetts
Devereux
Massachusetts
Fall River Deaconess
Home School

Wanderers
Italian Home for Children, Inc.
Lower Roxbury Coalition
Massachusetts Adoption Resource
Exchange, Inc.

Home for Little

Massachusetts Association of 766 Approved Private Schools (MAAPS) Massachusetts Council of Human Service Providers, Inc. Massachusetts Department of

Children & Families New England Association of Child Welfare Commissioners and Directors Robert F. Kennedy Children's Action Corps, Inc. Walden School, Learning Center for Deaf Children Bierwas, Katherine J. Elias, Eileen

MARYLAND

Adoption Exchange Association, Inc. Allegany County Department of Social Services Anne Arundel County Department of Social Services Baltimore City Department of Social Services **Baltimore County Department** of Social Services Calvert County Department of Social Services Caroline County Department of Social Services Carroll County Department of Social Services Cecil County Department of Social Services Charles County Department of Social Services **Dorchester County Department** of Social Services Family & Children's Services of Central Maryland Frederick County Department of Social Services Garrett County Department of Social Services Harford County Department of Social Services Howard County Department of Social Services International Social Service— United States of America Branch, Inc. Kent County Department of Social Services Lutheran Immigration & Refugee Service

OUR MEMBERSHIP - CONTINUED -

Maryland Association of Resources for Families & Youth Maryland Department of Human Resources Montgomery County Department of Social Services New Pathways, Inc. Prince George's County Department of Social Services Queen Anne's County Department of Social Services Somerset County Department of Social Services St. Mary's County Department of Social Services Talbot County Department of Social Services The Children's Home, Inc. The Martin Pollak Project, Inc The National Center for Children & Families Washington County Department of Social Services Wicomico County Department of Social Services Worcester County Department of Social Services Finn, Karen Johnson, Beth Johnson Pettaway, Stephanie

MAINE

Lank, Deborah

Wilson, Dana B.

Maine Department of Health & Human Services, Office of Child & Family Services Spurwink Services

MICHIGAN

Child and Family Services of Michigan, Inc. Methodist Children's Home Society Michigan Federation for Children and Families Flynn-Hahn, Diane

MINNESOTA

Hennepin County Human Services and Public Health Department Minnesota Council of Child Caring Agencies PATH Minnesota Pfohl, Mary

Missouri

Community Response
Family Resource Center
Lutheran Family & Children's
Services of Missouri
Missouri Coalition of Children's Agencies
Missouri Department of Social Services,
Children's Division
Parents as Teachers National Center
Harvey, Kristin

MISSISSIPPI

Mississippi Children's Home Services

MONTANA

New Day Ranch, Inc. Summit Preparatory School

NORTH CAROLINA

Another Choice for Black Children, Inc.
Catawba County Department
of Social Services
Eliada Homes, Inc.
FRIENDS National Resource Center
for CBCAP
Lutheran Services Carolinas
Masonic Home for Children at Oxford, Inc.
SAS Institute Inc.
Second Family Foundation
Atack, Linda
Bradley, Charles
Eagan, Peggy A.

NORTH DAKOTA

Children & Family Services Training Center Home On The Range National Foster Parent Association North Dakota Department of Human Services PATH Pride Manchester House

NEBRASKA

Center for Holistic Development, Inc. OMNI Behavioral Health Project Harmony Newell, David Wymore, Diana



New Hampshire

Child and Family Services of New Hampshire New Hampshire Partners in Service Holstein, Barbara

New Jersey

AIDS Resource Foundation for Children, Inc. Anchor House, Inc. Choice Services International, Inc.
Community Access Unlimited
Community Treatment Solutions
Foster Family-based Treatment Association
Harvest of Hope Family Services
Network, Inc.
New Jersey Alliance for Children,
Youth and Families, Inc.
New Jersey Department of Children
and Families
The Children's Home Society
of New Jersey
UIH Family Partners
Cannaveno, Charles

New Mexico

All Faiths
Childhaven, Inc.
La Familia – Namaste
New Mexico Children, Youth and
Families Department, Protective
Services Division
Faller, Kathleen

NEVADA

Nevada Department of Health & Human Services, Division of Child & Family Services

NEW YORK

Berkshire Farm Center & Services for Youth Catholic Guardian Society & Home Bureau Citizens' Committee for Children of New York, Inc.
Coalition for Hispanic Family Services Council of Family and Child Caring Agencies
Good Shepherd Services
Hope for Youth, Inc.
Jewish Child Care Association of New York
Lower East Side Family Union
Martin de Porres Group Homes
MercyFirst

New Directions Youth & Family Services, Inc. New York State Coalition for Children's Mental Health Services Professional Development Program Rockefeller College, University at Albany SCO Family of Services Seamen's Society for Children and Families Spence-Chapin The Children's Aid Society The Children's Village The Donaldson Adoption Institute The New York Foundling The Salvation Army, Syracuse Area Services Westchester County Department of Social Services Ayers, Frances Cohen-Filipic, Katherine DuMont, Kimberly Horan, Sarah Burns Jones, Irene M. McConnaughy, Susan Riley, Julie Waite, Douglas Wallace, Gerard

Оню

Catholic Charities Corporation Cleveland Christian Home, Inc. Franklin County Children Services Licking County Department of Job and Family Services Lorain County Children Services Montgomery County Children Services Muskingum County Children Services Ohio Association of Child Caring Agencies, Inc. Public Children Services Association of Ohio

Richland County Children Services Trumbull County Children Services Drummond, Susan M. Harman, Emily Voltolini, Krista J.

OKLAHOMA

Oklahoma Department of Human Services, Child Welfare Services The University of Oklahoma **OUTREACH** National Resource Center for Youth Services

OREGON

Boys & Girls Aid Jasper Mountain National Indian Child Welfare Association

PENNSYLVANIA

Devereux Family Design Resources, Inc. JusticeWorks YouthCare, Inc. PathWays PA Pennsylvania Child Welfare Resource Center, University of Pittsburgh Pennsylvania Council of Children, Youth and Family Services Pennsylvania Department of Human Services, Office of Children, Youth & Families Philadelphia Department of Human Services Stoneleigh Foundation The Field Center for Children's Policy, Practice & Research, University of Pennsylvania Wyoming County Human Services, Children & Youth Youth Service, Inc. Bitler, Beth Kulick, Anita



OUR MEMBERSHIP - CONTINUED -

PUERTO RICO

Proyecto Nacer, Inc.

RHODE ISLAND

Children's Friend and Service Foster Forward Rhode Island Council of Resource Providers for Children, Youth and Families (RICORP)

SOUTH CAROLINA

Center for Social Welfare Research & Assessment Pendleton Place Harling, Randy Littleton, Rhonda

SOUTH DAKOTA

South Dakota Department of Social Services, Division of Child Protective Services

TENNESSEE

Chambliss Center for Children Tennessee Department of Children's Services The Florence Crittenton Agency, Inc. Youth Villages

TEXAS

Boy Scouts of America Casey Family Programs — Austin Field Office Casey Family Programs — San Antonio Field Office Cenpatico Covenant House Texas Devereux Texas Treatment Network Harris County Protective Services for Children and Adults Juliette Fowler Homes, Inc. Lena Pope Rainbow of Love Adoption Agency, Inc.

Texas Alliance of Child and Family Services Texas Department of Family and Protective Services Biera Miracle, Anais Isela Deckinga, Audrey DeMontrond, Marilyn G. Harris, Ashley Levine, Joel A. Mauk, Joyce Elizabeth Rodriguez, Annette Williams, Dawnita Willis, Jeanette McCrea

UTAH

Children's Service Society Utah Department of Human Services, Division of Child & Family Services Utah Foster Care Foundation

VIRGINIA

Child Savers Child Welfare Information Gateway Fairfax County Department of Family Services Foster Care Alumni of America Foster Care to Success Friends Association for Children Richmond Department of Social Services Virginia Beach Department of Human Services Virginia Department of Social Services Irvine, Kimberly Jemmott, Edry Molloy, Barbara Waid, Meagan Marie

Whiting Blome, Wendy

VERMONT

Vermont Department for Children and Families Youth Catalytics Richards, Annie

WASHINGTON

Casey Family Programs Casey Family Programs — Seattle Field Office Casey Family Programs — Yakima Field Office National Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Association Miller, Sara Charlene Packard, William Benjamin

WISCONSIN

Chileda Institute, Inc. Wisconsin Association of Family and Children's Agencies Wisconsin Department of Children and Families

WEST VIRGINIA

West Virginia Department of Health & Human Resources, Bureau for Children & Families Harper-Dorton, Karen

WYOMING

Wyoming Department of Family Services Wyoming Youth Services Association Howell, William J. Petersen, Mary



Our Leadership

BLAKE, ALLISON

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Managing Partner, Greater New York Health Care and Non-Profit Practices New York, NY

COSTA, JOSEPH M.

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DAY, KIMBERLY

Deputy Director National Children's Alliance Washington, DC

DEMONTROND, MARILYN

Immediate Past Chair, Harris County Protective Services Houston, TX

FORD, KRISZTINA

President and CEO, All Faiths Albuquerque, NM

HAMMONS, MARVA

Executive Vice President of Child and Family Services, Casey Family Programs Seattle, WA

KELLEY, EDWARD

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Director, DFS, Delaware Department of Services for Children, Youth and Families Millsboro, DE

LANDRY, TODD

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CWLA Chair Membership Committee President and CEO, Kingsley House New Orleans, LA

LIEDERMAN, LARRY

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CWLA Board Secretary Senior Network Manager, Council on Foundations College Park, MD

MORALES, ALEX LCSW

President and CEO, Children's Bureau Los Angeles, CA

O'DONNELL II, C.T. PHD

O'Donnell's Strategy & Results Bethlehem, PA

SWEENEY-SPRINGWATER, JULIE

CWLA Chair Governance Committee CEO, New England Association of Child Welfare Commissioners and Directors Boston, MA

TUA-LOPEZ, ANAYRA

Executive Director, Proyecto Nacer, Inc. Bayamon, Puerto Rico

WHITE, CARNITRA

Director, Anne Arundel County Department of Social Services Annapolis, MD

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Marketing Director

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Senior Fellow

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Curriculum Developer and Trainer

Donna Petras

Director, Models of Practice and Training Development

Cassaundra Rainey

Vice President Member Services

Marlene Saulsbury

Art Director, Publications

John Sciamanna

Senior Policy Consultant



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