

Sexual Behavior Problems Program's Compliance with the Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Act (325 ILCS 15/) Mandate

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

In part, the Department addresses (325 ILCS 15/) Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Act through its Sexual Behavior Problems (SBP) Program, whose goal is to prevent, ameliorate, reduce, and eliminate the trauma of child sexual abuse and exploitation. Specifically, the SBP program retains 11 qualified and State credentialed (Licensed Sex Offender Evaluators and Licensed Sex Offender Treatment Providers) specialists who are located throughout the State. They provide counseling, therapeutic and evaluative services to youth who are sexually aggressive, have experienced sexual abuse and/or sexual exploitation by either their caregiver or a person who is responsible for the youth's welfare.

Services are provided through 110 community-based providers who are contracted with DCFS. In addition, myriad Youth Care providers are also heavily utilized. The services provided to youth and/or their families are monitored by SBP Program specialists who assure services are individually tailored, sound, clinically appropriate and intact if necessary to enable youth and caretakers to achieve goals set forth by the Department. SBP staff members provided approximately 15 educational training sessions to over 500 stakeholders Statewide to disseminate information on the dynamics and treatment of child sexual abuse and aggression through Department policy 302.240.

In order to comply with the mandates set forth by the Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Act (325 ILCS 15), the SBP program works closely with stakeholders Statewide including, but not limited to, GALs, State's Attorneys, law enforcement, community based agencies, and Child Advocacy Centers.

Respectfully Submitted,

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