

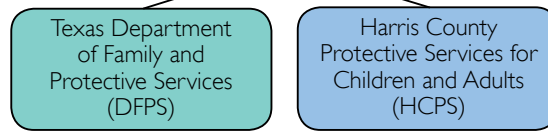
CPS in Harris County Annual Report
2010 Statistics ♦ 2011 Program Information



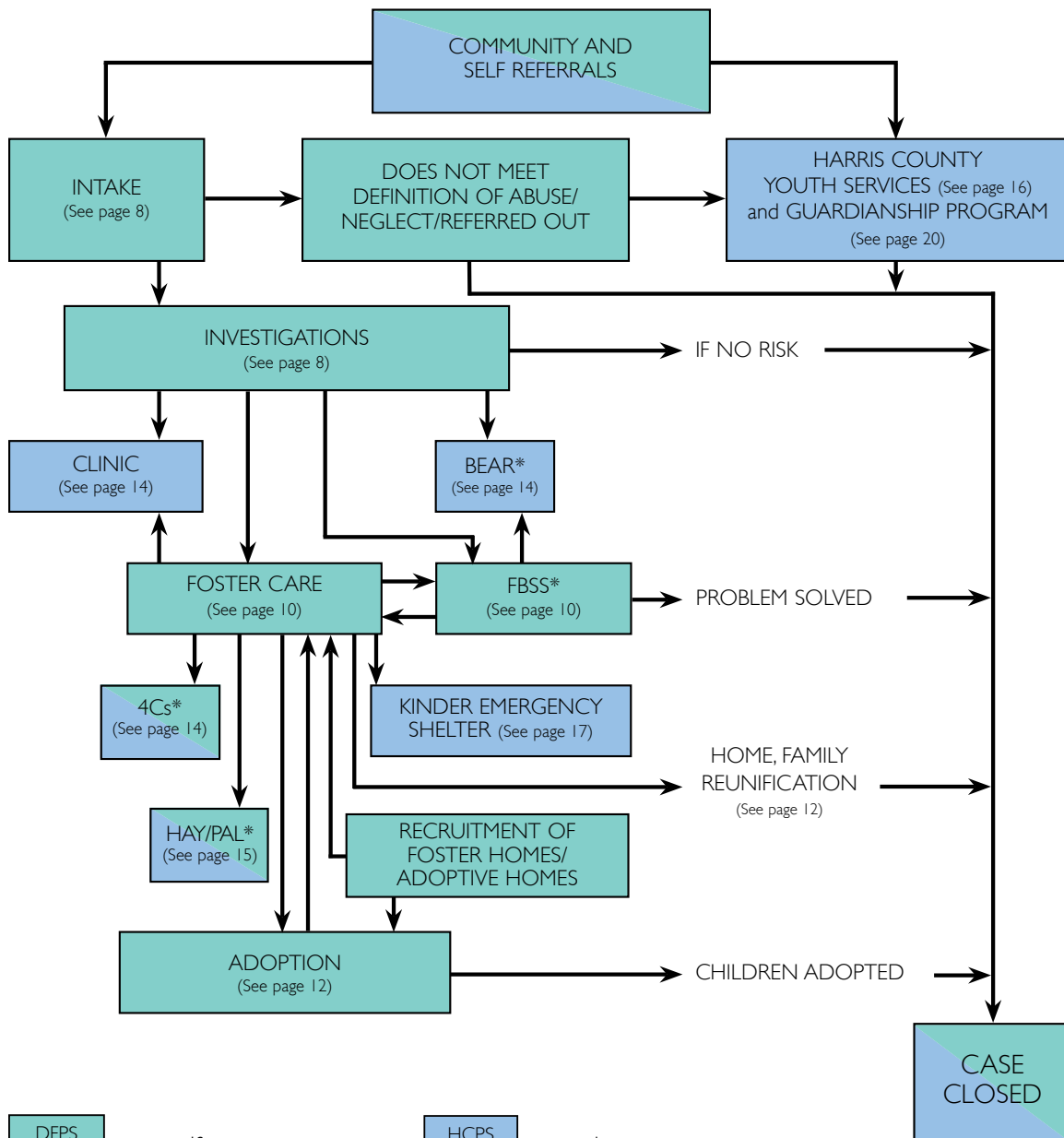
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A child, youth, family or adult's path through the programs of CPS in Harris County

CPS in Harris County



ever evolving to better lives



DFPS CASE www.dfps.state.tx.us

HCPS CASE www.hc-ps.org

*BEAR... BE A Resource for CPS Kids
*FBSS, Family-Based Safety Services

*4Cs, Children's Crisis Care Center
*PAL, Preparation for Adult Living

Letter to the Citizens of Harris County

CPS in Harris County is pleased to present our 2010-2011 Annual Report. This report provides an overview of our programs and services, and 2010 statistics and funding of both Harris County Protective Services for Children and Adults (HCPS) and the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS).



HCPS Highlights

We are currently undergoing some structural changes at HCPS and developing innovative ways to adapt to the current economic circumstances.

Last year we experienced a 10% reduction on our budget, which represented over \$2 million dollar decrease in funds. We also experienced a decrease in funding due to state cuts in education and prevention programs. In addition to the cuts, employees are taking six furlough days. The furloughs resulted in savings that have allowed us to fill vacant positions and prevent further staff cuts.

Because we anticipate this trend will continue at least through the next fiscal year, HCPS has looked beyond short term measures, beyond cuts in spending and staff furloughs. We are working to reprioritize, reorganize, and realign our resources; to adjust to the times, yet continue to meet the demands and needs of the clients.

Last fall, our Board of Directors held a retreat and identified three strategic goals for HCPS:

1. Define the outcomes that are "core" to the HCPS mission
2. Reorganize in a manner to achieve these outcomes
3. Achieve #1 and #2 within available resources

These goals, which include a restructuring of the programs and consolidation of services, are being implemented. Additionally, we have had the benefit of two MBA teams from the Capstone Program of Rice University study our department. The graduate students made recommendations regarding development of a new business model so as to enhance our ability to operate more effectively and efficiently, as well as development of a funding strategy to provide more viable and sustainable streams of funding.

The images and graphics in this year's annual report represent the "metamorphosis" taking place at HCPS. As we move forward in the current climate, we realize that the coming year will pose some challenges; however, we are confident that with these changes and the support of our Board and committed staff, we can meet the challenges ahead.

Sean Kelly McPherson
Board President, HCPS

George Ford, LMSW-AP, J.D.
Executive Director, HCPS

Scott Dixon, MSW
CPS Regional Director

HARRIS COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS
COURT

TEXAS DEPARTMENT
OF FAMILY AND
PROTECTIVE
SERVICES

ACCREDITED



COUNCIL ON ACCREDITATION
OF SERVICES FOR FAMILIES
AND CHILDREN, INC.

CWLA CHILD
WELFARE
LEAGUE OF
AMERICA



DFPS Highlights

The Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) continues to increase its efforts to ensure that children are placed with "forever families." Region 6 led the State in the overall number of adoptions for the second consecutive year; Harris County and the 12 outlying counties which make up Region 6 consummated 1,039 adoptions in fiscal year 2011. In Harris County 811 children were adopted, an increase of 5.2% over fiscal year 2010. Of these 811 children, over 65% of them were part of a sibling group. Statewide, the number of adoptions totaled 4,569.

In addition to the adoption program, DFPS received state support in the 81st Texas legislative session (2009) for its Permanency Care Assistance (PCA) program, which provides financial support to relative (or "kinship") caregivers who take permanent legal responsibility for a child who cannot be reunited with his or her parents and for whom adoption is not an appropriate option. Among other requirements, the relative becomes the child's verified foster home for at least 6 months and then becomes the child's permanent managing conservator. Currently, there are 92 verified fostering connections homes in Region 6, with 202 children placed in these homes.

Our goal next year is to increase these numbers rapidly so that children will not have to remain in the foster care system. We are very excited about this program, which not only provides financial support to those relatives caring for the children, but also improves the lives of children and youth by giving them permanency, and helps them stay connected to their families, siblings and communities.

For more information on **Fostering Connections** go to:

[http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/
Child_Protection/Fostering_Connections/](http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Child_Protection/Fostering_Connections/)

Table of Contents

Path through the programs of CPS in Harris County

Letter to the Citizens of Harris County	I
HCPS Board of Directors	2
HCPS Administrative Staff	2
DFPS Administrative Staff	3
CPS in Harris County Organizational Chart	4
Overview: HCPS and DFPS	5 & 6
Statistics for CPS in Harris County	7

Child Protective Services (CPS) Program of DFPS

Intake and Investigations	8
Abuse and Neglect Fatalities	9
Family-Based Safety Services (FBSS)	10
Foster Care	10
Family Group Decision Making (FGDM)	11
Disproportionality	11
Family Reunification	12
Kinship	12
Adoption	12 & 13
Extended Foster Care	13
Return to Care	13

CPS in Harris County • Harris County Protective Services for Children and Adults

Children Services

The Children's Crisis Care Center (4Cs)	14
HCPS Clinic	14
BE A Resource for CPS Kids (BEAR)	14
Region 6 Training Institute (TI)	15
Preparation for Adult Living (PAL)	15
Houston Alumni and Youth Center (HAY)	15

Youth Services

Community Youth Services (CYS)	17
Kinder Emergency Shelter (KES)	17
TRIAD Prevention Program	18
Systems of Hope (SOH)	19

Adult Services

The Harris County Guardianship Program (HCGP)	20
CPS in Harris County 2010 Funding	

Board of Directors & Administrative Staff



HCPS 2011 Board of Directors

Sean Kelly McPherson, *President*
Marilyn DeMontrond, *Vice President*
Philip J. Kunetka, *Treasurer*
Frances Castaneda Dyess, *Secretary*

Ron S. Davis, MPA
Elizabeth DeLuca
Ernest Frugé, PhD
Charlene Hunter James
Jerry LeVias
Sherea McKenzie
James G. Olson
Sarah Spindler, RN, MSN, FNP
Janet Stansbury, M.Ed
Jo Ellen Sweeney
Kim Szeto

HCPS 2011 Administrative Staff

George Ford, LMSW-AP, J.D., *Executive Director*
Joel A. Levine, LCSW, *Director of Administration*
Debra Andrews, MA, *Director, Region 6 Training Institute*
Robert Lee Brewer, LCSW, LCDIC, LCCA, *Director, Harris County Youth Services Center*
Bernadette Cashin, *Director, BEAR*
Deborah Colby, LCSW, LMFT, *Director, TRIAD Prevention Program*
Mary Green, MA, *Director, Transitional Services*
Ginger B. Harper, LMSW-AP, *Youth Services Administrator*
Randy Joiner, LMSW-AP, LCPAA, *Director, Systems of Hope*
Jan McLaughlin, RG, *Adult Services Administrator*
Willie Nelson, RN, *Director, Medical/Dental Clinic*
Estella Olguin, *Community Relations Director*
Beverly Pettway, CPA, MBA, *Financial and Business Services Administrator*
Kimberly Poré, LCSW, *Children's Services Administrator*
John Prior, LCSW, ACSW, *Program Improvement Team Leader*

Administrative Staff



DFPS 2011 Administrative Staff for CPS Houston Region 6

Scott Dixon, MSW, CPS Regional Director
C. J. Broussard-White, Inter Regional Managing Attorney,
Regions 4, 5, 6

Gwen Carter, MSW, Media Specialist

James H. Castille, MA, LBSW, LPC-Intern, CPS Deputy
Regional Director

Michael Cutaia, MA, CPS Regional Director Assistant
Sheryl T. Dotson, LMSW-AP, Program Administrator for
Children in Custody in Harris County

Deborah K. Green, MSW, CDVC-III, MAC, CCJS, BEI-I, Service
Program Administrator

Catherine Guess, M.ED, LPC, LMFT, LCDC, LBSW, Service
Program Administrator

Sandra L. Haire, MPA, LMSW, MSSW, Program Administrator
for Investigations and FBSS

Ledra Johnson, Resource and External Relations Specialist

James Lebeck, Community Initiative Specialist

Lindy Levit, SPHR, Regional Operations Support Administrator

Shannon Manning, CPS Regional Director Assistant

Debra L. Page, MSW, Program Administrator for
Investigations and FBSS

Josephine Robinson, MSW, Program Administrator for Foster
and Adopt, Adoption Preparation and Children in
Custody for the Outlying Counties

Cheryl Triplett, MA, Program Administrator for
Investigations and FBSS

Sherryl Becker, MS, LCDC, CSW, Program Director for FBSS

Kristina Belcher, BS, BBA, Kinship Initiative Program Director

Katara Butler, MSW, Program Director for Children in
Custody in Harris County

Manett Butler, Residential Team Placement Coordinator

Ivy Chambers, BS, MA, Program Director for Investigations

Tonya Clay, MA, LPC-Intern, Program Director for Children
in Custody in Harris County

Rosie Christal, Program Director for CPS Special Investigators

Willis Corbin, Program Director for CPS Special Investigators

Jerry Dowse, Program Director for CPS Special Investigators

Charlene Figueroa-Bustamante, Program Director for
Investigations

Leshia Fisher, Program Director for Children in
Custody in outlying counties

Peggy Gartman, LMSW-AP, Program Director for Children in
Custody in outlying counties

Bernita Hagan, Program Improvement Specialist

Cheryl Harvick, Program Director for Investigations and FBSS

Sheila Hazley, Program Director for Children in Custody
in Harris County

Evelyn Jacobs, MSW, LMSW, Program Director for FBSS

Keema Jones, Program Director for Children in Custody
in Harris County

Patricia Johnson, LBSW, Program Director for Adoption Preparation

Tye Kelley, Program Director for Children in Custody
in Harris County

Renatta Kost, MSW, Program Director for FBSS

Deborah Kumar-Misir, LMSW, Well-Being Specialist

Renita Laury, Resolution Specialist

Natarsha Lewis, Residential Team Placement Coordinator

Glenda Martin, Program Director for Foster/Adopt

Wyndi McPeters-Grant, Program Director for
Adoption Preparation

Carolyn Polk, Program Director for FBSS

Marilyn Polk, Program Director for Investigations

Angela Rhoden, MSW, Program Director for Children in
Custody in Harris County

Krista Rodriguez, MSW, Resolution Specialist

Shondra Rogers McGary, Region 6 Disproportionality Specialist

Monica L. Sanders, Program Director for Investigations

Karen Sheehan, Risk Manager

Barbara Shinall, LMSW-AP, Lead Child Safety Specialist, Region 6

Vanessa Shippard, MSW, Risk Manager

Debra Taylor-Bell, Program Director for Investigations

Doris Thomas-Buckler, PhD, BCCC, Program Director for FBSS

Debra Thornton, Resolution Specialist

Teplah Toomey, Program Director for Investigations

Cindy Umlang, LMSW-AP, Program Director for Investigations

Jarita Wharton, LBSW, MSW, Program Director for Investigations

Kathy White, BSW, MA, Training Academy Manager

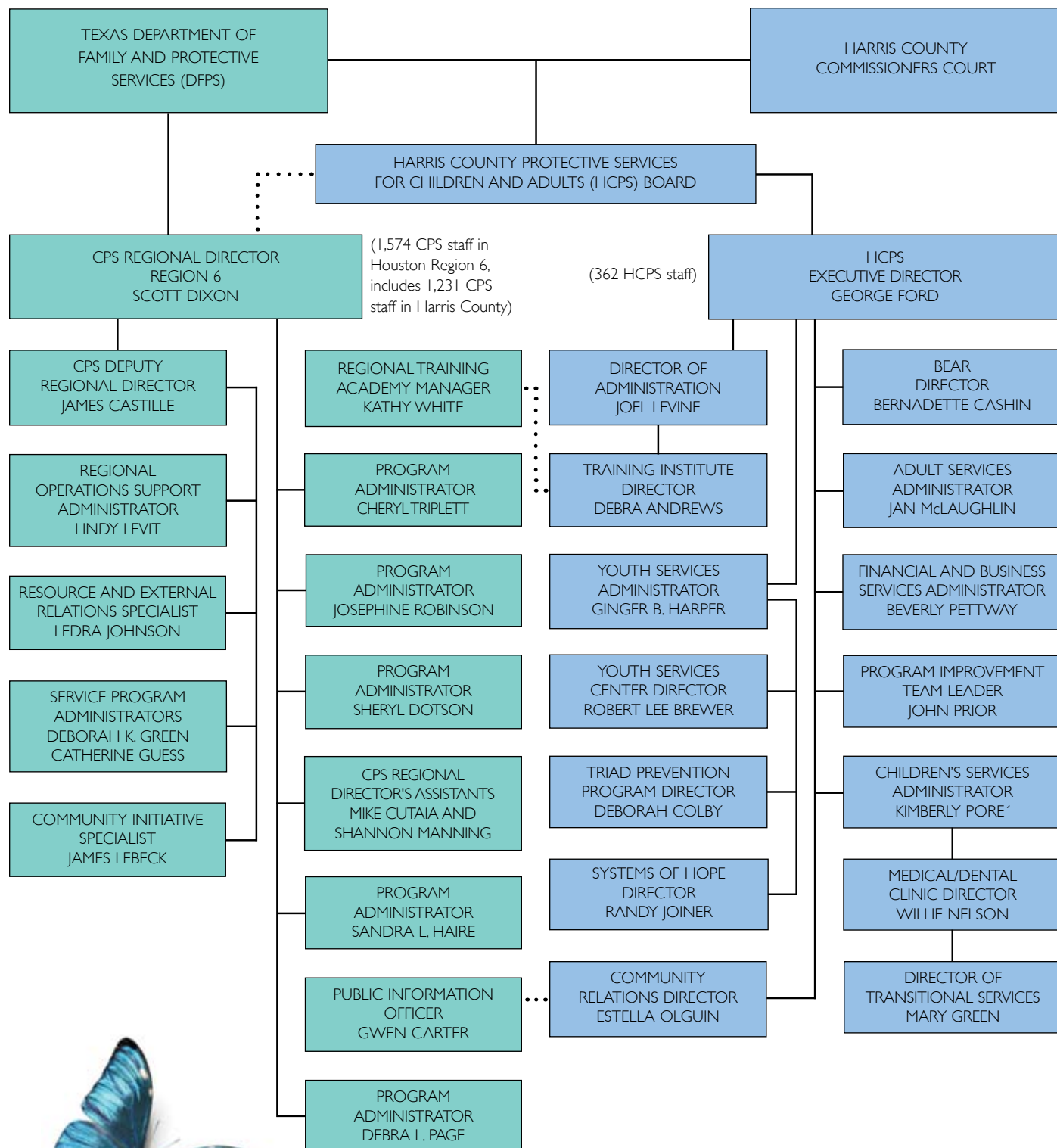
Diana Wilson, Program Director for Investigations

Kimberly Wiseburn, MSW, Program Director for
Investigations and FBSS

Mia Williams, MA, Region 6 Disproportionality Specialist

Jennifer C. Williams, MA, Lead Child Safety Specialist, Regions 6 & 3

CPS in Harris County Organizational Chart • 2011



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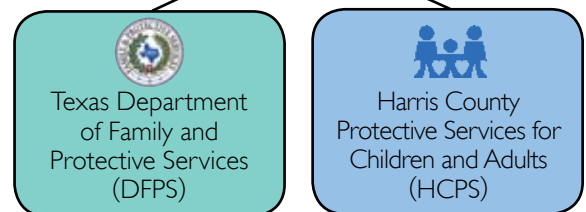
Overview



While Child Protective Services (CPS) in Texas is a state-managed program through the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS), there has been a tradition of county-level involvement since 1966 in Harris County.

In a unique governmental collaboration, protective services for children and adults in Harris County are seamlessly provided by the state of Texas, acting through DFPS, and Harris County through Harris County Protective Services for Children and Adults (HCPS).

CPS in Harris County



The Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS)

www.dfps.state.tx.us

Harris County Protective Services for Children and Adults (HCPS)

www.hc-ps.org



Overview



The Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS)

www.dfps.state.tx.us

The Texas Department of Family and Protective Services serves the state's youth, families, elderly and people with disabilities. The DFPS mission is to protect children, the elderly and people who have disabilities from abuse, neglect and exploitation by involving clients, families and communities. DFPS works to accomplish that mission through four programs: Child Protective Services (CPS), Adult Protective Services (APS), Child Care Licensing (CCL), and Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) programs. DFPS is an agency of the Texas Health and Human Services Commission.

The responsibilities of the Child Protective Services (CPS) program of DFPS are to:

- ◆ Conduct civil investigations of reported child abuse and neglect,
- ◆ Protect children from abuse and neglect,
- ◆ Promote the safety, integrity and stability of families,
- ◆ Provide permanent homes or living arrangements for children who cannot safely remain with their own families.



Harris County Protective Services for Children and Adults (HCPS)

www.hc-ps.org

The Vision of Harris County Protective Services for Children and Adults (HCPS) is to better the lives of children and adults in Harris County.

HCPS' mission is to:

- ◆ Provide direct services to children not served by DFPS,
- ◆ Provide support services designed to enhance the efficiency of the DFPS program,
- ◆ Provide guardianship services to adults,
- ◆ Advocate for Harris County's children and adults.

HCPS, a county department advocating for Harris County children and adults, works to accomplish its mission through three divisions: Adult Services; Youth Services, i.e. Kinder Emergency Shelter; Community Youth Services, Systems of Hope, and the TRIAD Prevention Program; and Children's Services, i.e. BEAR...BE A Resource for CPS Kids, Children's Crisis Care Center; Medical and Dental Clinic, the Training Institute and Preparation for Adult Living and HAY Center.

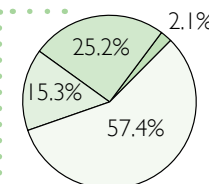
Total Children Served Monthly

Breakdown of (children) in Protective Custody

Approximate number of children receiving services from CPS in Harris County per month in 2010, including those children serviced in DFPS and HCPS programs.

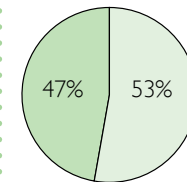
Completed investigations (children).....	4,600
Receiving Family-Based Safety Services (children).....	7,000
In Protective Custody (children).....	5,500
(See Breakdown charts at right)	
Receiving TRIAD Prevention Program Services (youth).....	1,700
Receiving CYS Services (youth).....	9,100

TOTAL (Approximate number of children served per month by CPS in Harris County) 27,900



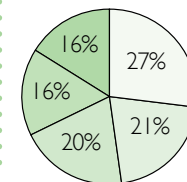
Race and Ethnicity

- ◆ 57.4% African American
- ◆ 15.3% Anglo
- ◆ 25.2% Hispanic
- ◆ 2.1% Other



Diversity

- ◆ 53% Male
- ◆ 47% Female



Ages

- ◆ 27% Under 2 yrs
- ◆ 21% 3 to 5 yrs
- ◆ 20% 6 to 9 yrs
- ◆ 16% 10 to 13 yrs
- ◆ 16% 14 to 17 yrs



Statistics for CPS in Harris County 2010

Harris County Child Population for Year 2010: 1,104,113

Child Protective Services (CPS) Program of The Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS)

CPS Program of DFPS 2010 Activities ¹ • FY September 1, 2009 through August 31, 2010

Intakes of child abuse and neglect assigned for investigation		28,549 ²
Completed investigations	families	21,727 ²
	alleged victims	35,729
	total children	55,442
Children adopted	in Region 6 ³	1,046
Children served in Family-Based Safety Services		13,101
Children taken into protective custody		2,636
Total children in protective custody	as of August 31, 2010	5,640
Foster and Foster/Adopt Homes	as of August 31, 2010	196

¹ Source: DFPS Forecasting and Program Statistics.

² The difference between Intakes and Completed investigations is the families currently under investigation or investigations merged or administratively closed.

³ Houston Region 6 includes Harris County and 12 surrounding counties.

Additional information
can be found at:

www.dfps.state.tx.us/statistics

Harris County Protective Services for Children and Adults (HCPS)

HCPS 2010 Activities ⁴ • January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010

BEAR...BE A Resource for CPS Kids ⁵	CPS children served in BEAR Necessities	9,920
	CPS children served in BEARing Gifts	8,328
	CPS children served in Back to School	4,375
	in-kind and cash contributions	\$1,104,716
Children's Crisis Care Center (4Cs)	children evaluated	1,053
	families assessed	454
	Family Group Decision-Making conferences	748
	Permanency Planning Team meetings	3,529 ⁶
Community Youth Services (CYS)	youth referrals	12,842
	parents and teens in Survival Skills	797
Student Support Services		96,094
Guardianship Program	adult wards as of Dec. 31, 2010	1,431
Kinder Emergency Shelter	youth sheltered	357
Medical-Dental Clinic	children served	3,582
Preparation for Adult Living (PAL)	youth served in Harris County ⁷	924
TRIAD Prevention Program	at-risk youth served	20,779 ⁸

⁴ Source: The new EVOLV Database System

⁵ Some children are served by multiple programs.

⁶ Special professional teams to ensure that children do not linger in foster care.

⁷ PAL served youth during DFPS fiscal year.

⁸ Refer to page 19 for breakdown

Additional information
can be found at:

www.hc-ps.org

Child Protective Services (CPS) Program of DFPS

For more information on services, go to: www.dfps.state.tx.us/child_protection

Intake

State law requires anyone who believes a child is being abused or neglected, or an adult who is elderly or has a disability is being abused, neglected, or exploited, must report the situation to the DFPS' Texas Abuse Hotline, also known as Statewide Intake. DFPS administers a toll-free, 24-hour statewide hotline **1-800-252-5400** located in Austin, Texas. Reports can also be made online through a secure website at **www.txabusehotline.org**

In FY 2010, CPS in Harris County assigned 28,549 reports of child abuse and neglect for investigation. All reports meeting the statutory definitions of abuse and neglect are assigned a priority based on the level of risk to the alleged victim. The highest priority reports (P1) must be responded to within 24 hours. Priority 2 cases must be responded to within 72 hours. Law enforcement agencies are also notified of reports regarding children.

have been abused or neglected in Harris County. The rate of confirmed abuse/neglect victims in Harris County was 5.9 per 1,000 children, compared to 10.2 children per 1,000 in Texas.

For more information on **Investigations**, go to:
http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Child_Protection/About_Child_Protective_Services/investigation.asp



Investigations

When an intake report is assigned, CPS workers interview children (when verbal), parents and others with knowledge of the family. These interviews help determine if child abuse or neglect has occurred and assess the risk of further harm to the child. If criminal conduct is involved, law enforcement may investigate at the same time to determine if criminal charges will be filed. Even if evidence of abuse or neglect is not found, caseworkers may refer families to services in the community, such as individual or family therapy, parenting classes, medical assistance, mental health services, or programs offering financial assistance for utilities, rent, and child care.

The Child Protective Services Point of Entry, located at the Harris County Youth Services Center, helps to coordinate investigations for victims of physical abuse or neglect 24 hours per day, seven days per week. Victims of sexual abuse are referred to the Children's Assessment Center for investigation by CPS staff, law enforcement, medical professionals, specialized interviewers and therapists.

During FY 2010, CPS in Harris County completed 21,727 investigations. 6,535 children were confirmed to



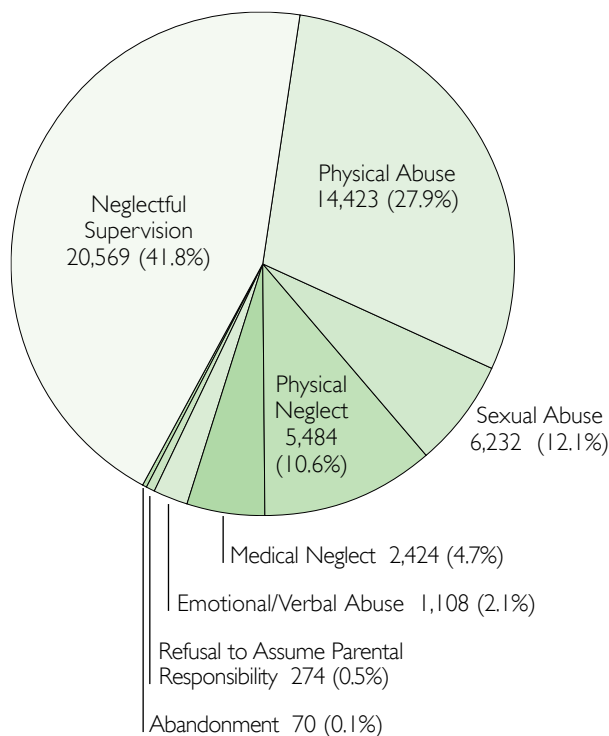
Child Protective Services (CPS) Program of DFPS

Abuse and Neglect Fatalities

It is a great tragedy when a child dies due to abuse or neglect. CPS has developed both internal and external mechanisms to review these fatalities. Citizen Review Teams, Child Fatality Review Teams, CPS Child Safety Specialists and Risk Managers, Regional Child Safety review committees, and the state Child Safety Review Committee all review deaths. A common goal is to help CPS and communities identify the causes of child fatalities and develop strategies, programs, and training to reduce the rate of preventable child deaths; as well as to provide intervention services to families and children at risk. In 2010, there were 44 child abuse or neglect related fatalities in Harris County. This is down from 67 child deaths in 2009. In Texas there were 227 deaths also a decrease from 280 in 2009.

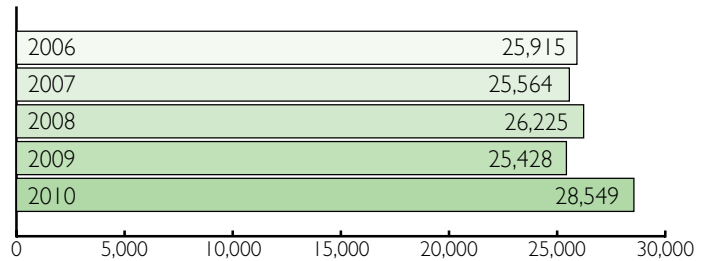
Completed CPS Investigations in Harris County

The total exceeds 35,729 alleged victims in completed investigations in 2010 since children may have more than one type of abuse/neglect allegation.

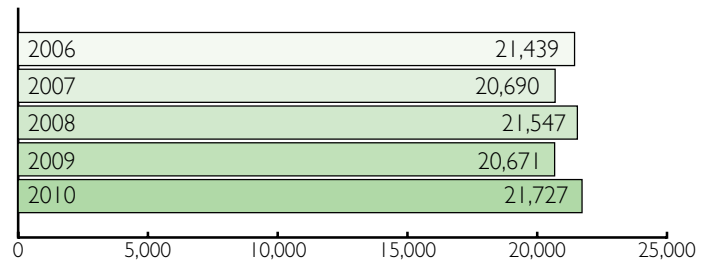


Breakdown of Types of Abuse/Neglect of Alleged Victims in Completed Investigations

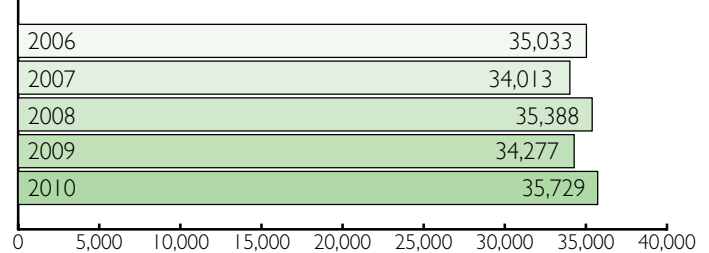
Intakes



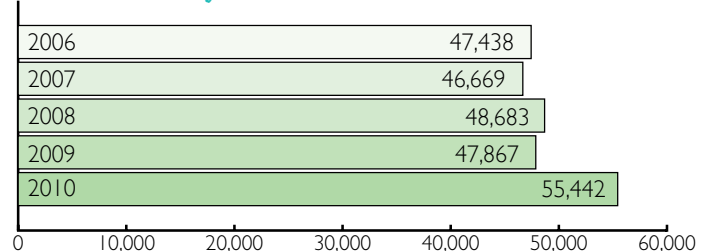
Families



Alleged Victims



Total Number of Children

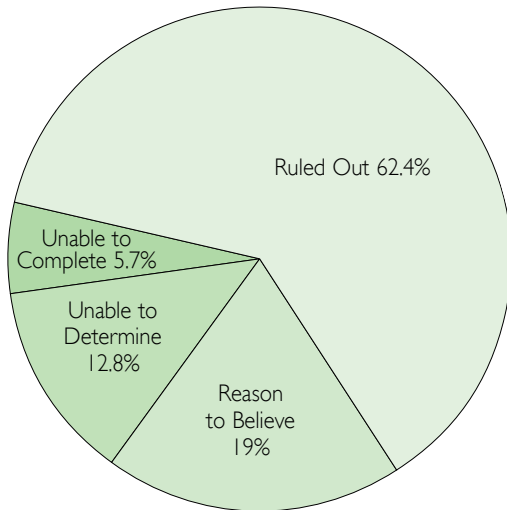


The difference between Intakes and Completed Investigations is the families currently under investigation or investigation merged or administratively closed.

Child Protective Services (CPS) Program of DFPS

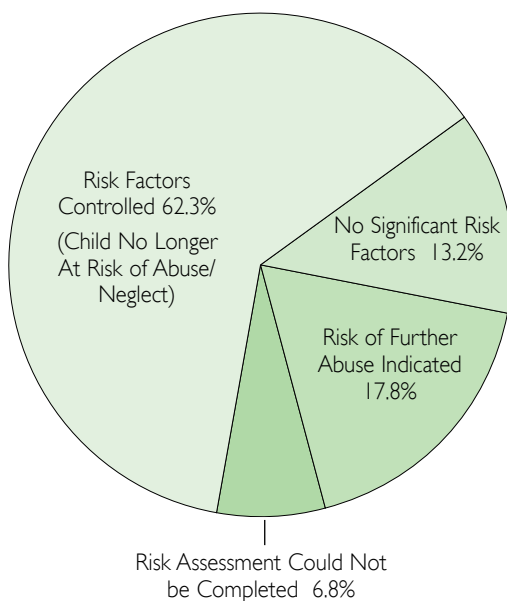
Findings of Allegations in Families in Completed Investigations

During FY 2010, 21,727 family investigations were completed.



CPS investigations help determine if child abuse or neglect has occurred and assess the risk of further harm to the child.

Outcome of Risk Assessment of Child Abuse/Neglect in Families in Completed Investigations



Family-Based Safety Services (FBSS)

When child safety can be reasonably assured, CPS provides in-home services to help stabilize the family and reduce the risk of future abuse or neglect. Services provided include family counseling, crisis intervention, mental health services, parenting classes, substance abuse treatment and childcare. Most children served by FBSS continue to live at home while CPS works with their families. In other cases, children may live elsewhere temporarily, usually with relatives or family friends, until the home becomes safe enough for the children to return.

In FY 2010, 13,101 children in Harris County received family-based safety services, including purchased services, in their own homes. In 2010 an average of 7,000 children received in-home services each month.

Foster Care

When it is not safe for children to live with their own families, CPS petitions the court to remove the children from their home. While children are in foster care and parental rights are intact, CPS provides services to parents until the family is reunited or another permanent living arrangement for the children is approved by the courts. While in CPS custody, children may be placed temporarily in kinship care, a verified foster family, an emergency shelter, or another foster care facility. Foster families provide a safe, nurturing environment for children in CPS care. Foster families receive reimbursements for the costs associated with caring for children. CPS and the foster parents are required to arrange all medical, dental, and therapeutic services needed by the child. Some children have emotional or other needs that can be difficult to address in a foster home. These children may be placed in specialized group homes, residential treatment centers, or other facilities that best meet their needs. In 2010, 2,636 children were taken into protective custody and the average number of children in foster care in Harris County each month was 5,500.

For more information on **Foster Care** go to:
www.dfps.state.tx.us/Child_Protection/Foster_Care

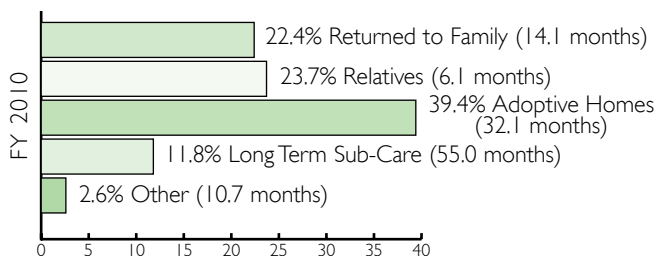
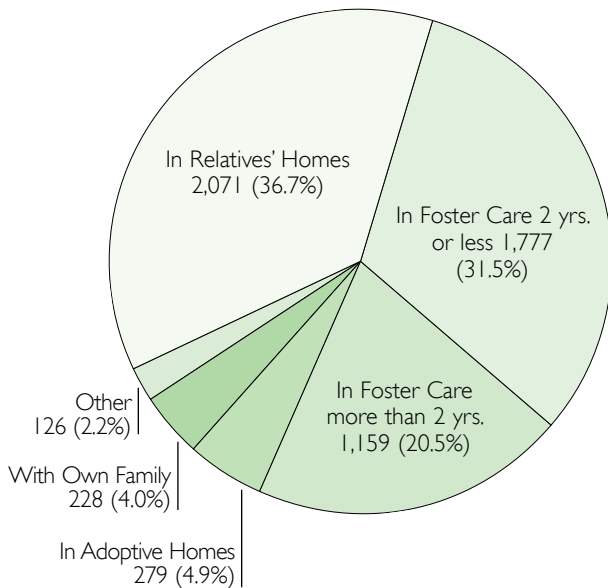
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Child Protective Services (CPS) Program of DFPS

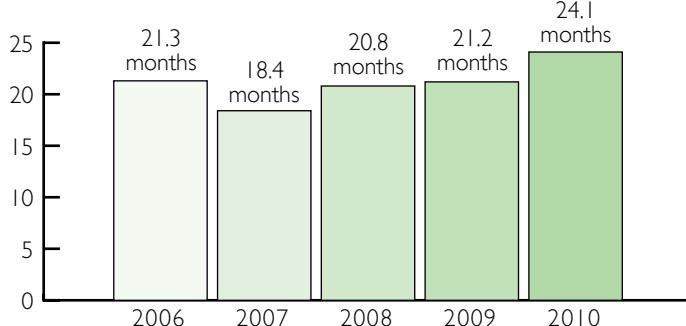
Location of Children in DFPS Protective Custody in Harris County

At the end of FY 2010, 5,640 children were in the state's Managing Conservatorship (custody) in Harris County.



The average length of time children were in state custody in Harris County until placed in a permanent living arrangement during FY 2010 was 24.1 months

Comparison of total average length of time children in custody 2006 - 2010



Family Group Decision Making (FGDM)

CPS protects children and acts on their behalf. At the same time, CPS thinks all families have strengths. Families know their children best and want them to be safe. FGDM describes a variety of practices to work with and engage families in problem solving including Family Team Meetings, Family Group Conferences, and Circles of Support.

If the children are still living with their own families, CPS may set up a meeting called a **Family Team Meeting (FTM)** as a rapid response to child safety and placement concerns. It is used to achieve positive outcomes for children in the earliest stages of interaction between CPS and families. Families can invite anyone who is important in their children's lives to be part of this planning team.

A **Family Group Conference (FGC)** happens most frequently when children have been temporarily removed from their families. Families join with relatives, friends, and others in the community to develop a plan to ensure children are cared for and protected from future harm. It is up to the family to decide if they want to have one. In Region 6, either through Family Group Decision-Making or a Permanency Planning Team, this coordination is by the Children's Crisis Care Center (page 14).

Circles of Support (COS) are meetings that are youth-driven and youth-focused. The primary goal is to develop a plan for older youth to transition from foster care to living independently as young adults and to connect the youth with caring adults who will support them. The meetings are required for youth 16 and older but can begin as early as age 14.

For more information on **Family Group Decision Making**, go to: http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Child_Protection/About_Child_Protective_Services/fgdm.asp

Disproportionality

Since 2004, CPS has addressed the disproportionate representation of African-American and Native American children in the child welfare system, also known as "disproportionality." CPS has partnered with community organizations and is using data to reduce disparate outcomes. Specialized staff members in this region help guide this work.

Child Protective Services (CPS) Program of DFPS

Family Reunification

During FY 2010, 1,994 children in CPS custody in Harris County were placed in a permanent living arrangement. With court approval, 22.4% of the children were returned to their own families, 23.7% were placed with relatives, and 39.4% were placed in adoptive homes.

program assists kinship families by providing support services and limited financial assistance to caregivers who accept placement of related children in CPS custody. In 2010, 2,013 children were placed in kinship care homes.

For more information about **Kinship**, go to:
http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Child_Protection/Kinship_Care/

Kinship

For generations, extended families have played a significant role in the rearing of children when parents were unable to do so. When removing children from their homes to ensure immediate safety, DFPS and the courts are required to consider temporary placements with safe relatives and to ask parents to provide information on relatives who may be able to care for the children. Referred to as kinship care, these caregivers provide children the benefit of more stability when they cannot live with their birth parents. Kinship placements move children out of foster care and into the care of relatives, helping children stay connected to their families and their communities. The CPS kinship

Adoption

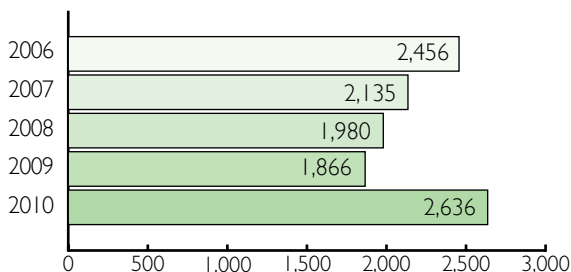
When it is not possible for a child to return home, the court may terminate the parents' rights and legally make the child available for adoption. In 2010, DFPS completed 1,046 adoptions in Houston Region 6 (Harris County and the 12 surrounding counties). DFPS contracts with licensed, private child-placing agencies to increase the number of parents available to adopt children in foster care.

CPS recruits foster parents and adoptive families through local, state, and national campaigns and through the Texas Adoption Resource Exchange (TARE) website. TARE is the department's leading recruitment tool for prospective

continued

Comparison of total average length of time children in custody 2006– 2010

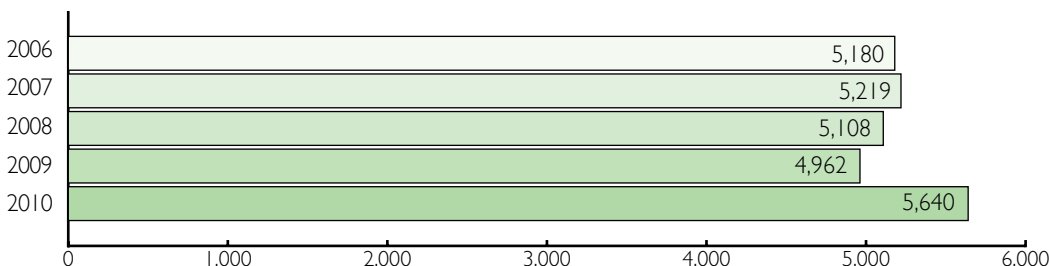
Children Taken Into Protective Custody During Fiscal Year



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Children in Protective Custody at End of Fiscal Year



Source: DFPS Forecasting and Program Statistics



Child Protective Services (CPS) Program of DFPS

Adoption *continued*

foster and adoptive homes. TARE provides information on children waiting to be adopted. Photos, profiles, videos, and inquiry forms are available at www.adoptchildren.org. The TARE toll-free nationwide inquiry line **1-800-233-3405** receives about 2,500 to 3,500 calls a month from prospective foster and adoptive families.

Adopted children who have suffered abuse or neglect often need help coping with the effects of these experiences and the loss of their birth families. Region 6 contracts with private agencies to provide post-adoption services to adopted children and their new families, including case management, mental health, therapeutic services, parent training, support groups and respite care for adoptive parents.

Extended Foster Care

Through the federal Foster Connections legislation, states can extend help to foster youth who are already eligible and wish to remain in foster care after their 18th birthday. This care is known as "extended foster care". Youth can stay in extended foster care through age 22, while they pursue a high school diploma or GED. They can also remain in extended foster care through age 21 to attend college or a vocational/technical training program, participate in a program or activity to improve job skills, or if they are not capable of performing activities due to a medical condition.

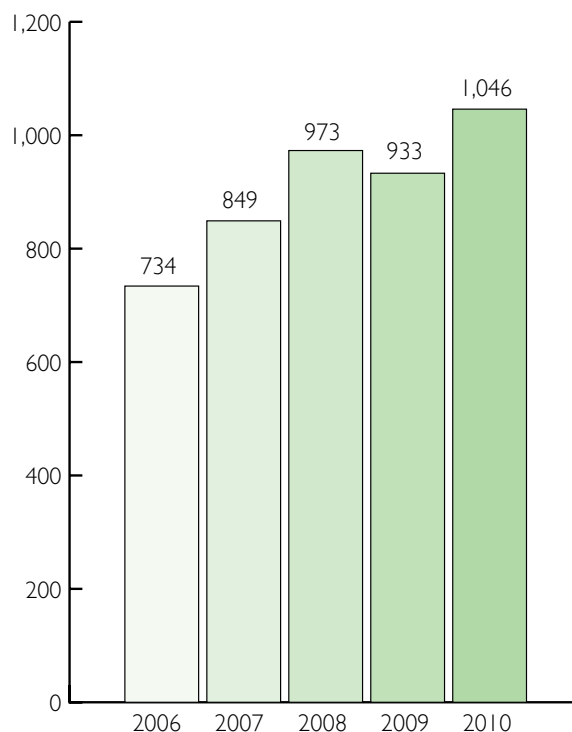
Return to Care

Since November 2007, youth ages 18 to 20 who have aged out of foster care can choose to return to CPS care:

- ◆ To attend high school or complete a GED course (up to age 22)
- ◆ To attend a vocational or technical program (up to age 21)
- ◆ Return to foster care during holidays, breaks, and vacations from college or a vocational program for at least one month, but no longer than four months (up to age 21)

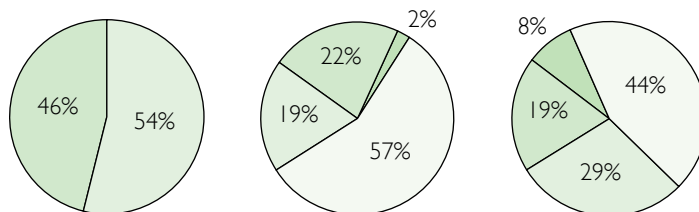


Adoptions Completed in Houston Region 6



Waiting
www.adoptchildren.org 1-800-233-3405

1,911 Children in the Houston Region are Waiting to be Adopted (1,614 in Harris County)*



Diversity

- ◆ Male: 54%
- ◆ Female: 46%

Race & Ethnicity

- ◆ African American: 57%
- ◆ Anglo: 19%
- ◆ Hispanic: 22%
- ◆ Other or Mixed Race: 2%

Ages

- ◆ Birth to 5 yrs: 44%
- ◆ 6-10: 29%
- ◆ 11-14: 19%
- ◆ 15-17: 8%

72.6% (1,388) of the children are part of a sibling group

* As of July 31, 2011

Children Services

The Children's Crisis Care Center (4Cs)



The Children's Crisis Care Center (4Cs) is a community collaboration focused on meeting the unique needs of each physically abused and neglected child entering CPS custody. This service is only available to children referred by DFPS.

The Children's Crisis Care Center, with 31 staff, 22 contracted professionals, and interns from local graduate programs, is structured into three program teams: Children, Family and Permanency Planning. In 2011, 4Cs became a partner with the newly formed Infant Toddler Court team, under Judge Bonnie Hellums, to provide Parent-Child Interaction Assessments and Visit Coaching for families in the CPS system with children 0-3 years of age.

During 2010:

Children assessed	1,053
Families assessed	454
Permanency Planning Team meetings	3,529
(For each custody child in Region 6)	
Family Group Decision-Making conferences	748

For complete information on 4Cs
and its programs go to:
www.hc-ps.org



HCPS Medical/Dental Clinic



HCPS Clinic, which is located at the Youth Services Center, is available to all child clients of DFPS and HCPS and operates with the University of Texas Medical School.

During 2010, 3,582 children were provided services at the HCPS Clinic. 2,299 children received medical services and 1,283 received dental services. Services included helping caseworkers identify suspected child abuse/neglect, providing medical and dental services to children in foster care and the Kinder Emergency Shelter, as well as various medical presentations and trainings.

The Clinic also performed drug screens on adult clients connected with the children we serve, when requested by the caseworkers. During 2010, drug tests were administered to 2,179 adult clients.

BE A Resource for CPS Kids (BEAR)



The mission of BEAR, which stands for BE A Resource for CPS Kids, is to offer hope and help for abused and neglected children and the caseworkers who protect them. BEAR is a 501(c)(3) public/private partnership that provides goods and services to children under the care of CPS in Harris County. BEAR is very fortunate to have support from the State and County as well as numerous generous individuals, corporations, churches and foundations. In 2010, BEAR received \$1,104,716.31 in cash and in kind donations.

During 2010, BEAR Necessities, emergency supply rooms co-located in seven CPS offices, served almost 10,000 children and BEARING Gifts, which provides holiday gifts to CPS kids, served more than 8,000 children. The BEAR Back to School program provided school uniforms and supplies to almost 5,000 children. BEAR also sponsored its third annual graduation party for CPS/PAL (Preparation for Adult Living) youth graduating from high school and aging out of foster care. Some children with open CPS cases are served by all programs each year.

BEAR is so grateful to the hundreds of volunteers who ensure that we are able to serve as many children as possible. In 2010 18 year-round volunteers assisted in the BEAR rooms, 149 volunteers assisted with BEAR Back to School and more than 350 volunteers participated in BEARING Gifts.

For more information about **BEAR**
and opportunities to get involved,
Please call **713-940-3087**



Children Services

Region 6 Training Institute (TI)



The Region 6 Training Institute (TI) consists of both HCPS and DFPS employees. The Training Institute provides a variety of training courses and staff development opportunities for all levels of HCPS and DFPS staff, including:

Basic Skills Development (BSD) Courses designed for new DFPS/CPS workers, Management Training, and a wide range of continuing education courses of interest for HCPS workers and supervisors. The Training Institute also provides Computer Based - Basic Skills Development classes for all new Guardianship Caseworkers and continuing education classes designed specifically for our geriatric care managers and supervisors. The TI, along with its community partners, hosted the Dianne Bynum Administrative Support Services Conference. The framework for this conference was modeled to show support for our administrative support professionals by demonstrating a "reversal of service" where Harris County CPS administrators and others spend a day serving those who spend their time serving others. On this day, our support staff attends some much need staff development training while their managers either work as volunteers during the conference or they provide coverage for the office.

During 2010, Region 6 Training Institute provided 75 workshops for 1,895 participants. A total of 300 new state CPS caseworkers participated in the BSD program. BSD is a 12 week intensive training program consisting of classroom core training, On-The-Job training with veteran peer trainers, and specialized training tracks for such concentrations as Investigations, Family Based Safety Services, and Conservatorship services.

In 2007, The Region 6 Training Consortium was formed. The Consortium is a collaboration of 11 private agencies, non-profit organizations, for profit business groups, and government entities, who provide training and workshops designed to enhance the personal, professional, and organizational performance of our staff.

time-limited financial help, and training in such areas as money management, job skills, educational planning and interpersonal skills.

In 2010, 1,299 youth from Region 6 (924 from Harris County), ages 14 through 20, received services through the PAL Program. Through funds of the federal Chafee Foster Care Independence Act, PAL provided aftercare room-and-board assistance and case management services for young adults ages 18 through 21 who have exited foster care.

The Houston Alumni and Youth Center (HAY)



The Houston Alumni and Youth Center (HAY) provides a one-stop transition center for foster youth and former foster youth still in need of employment, education or support. In 2010, the HAY Center, located at 1906 Cochran Street in Houston, served 689 young adults between the ages of 16 to 25. HCPS staff members provide employment, education, counseling, substance abuse treatment, parenting classes, and limited financial assistance in conjunction with PAL staff and numerous partner agencies to empower foster youth and alumni to become successful, productive adults.

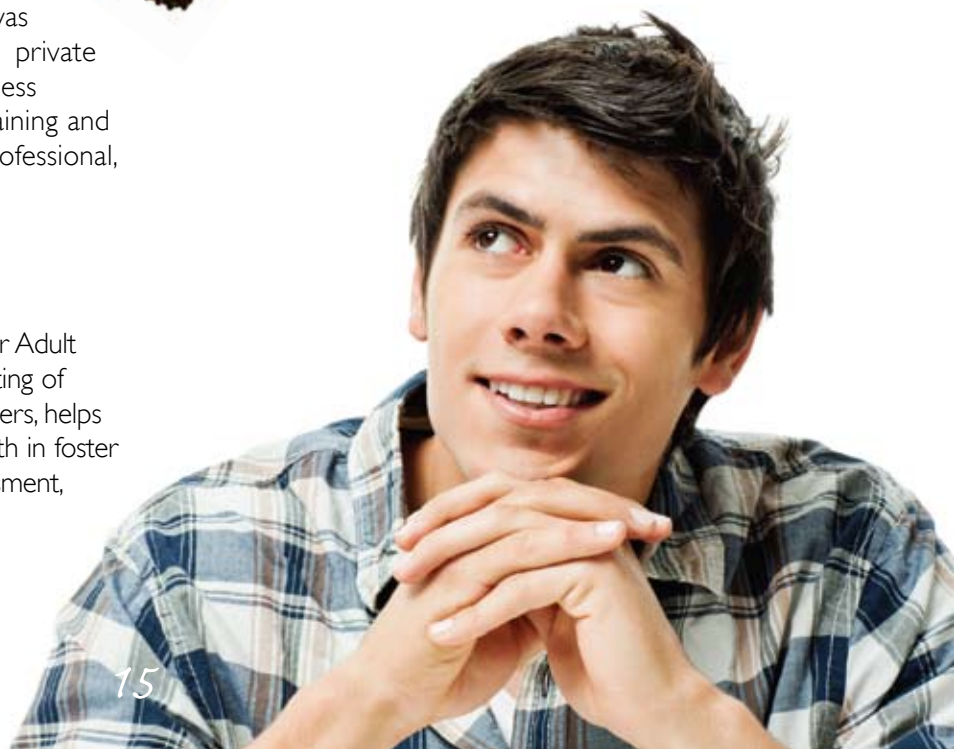
For more information about **PAL Services** or the **HAY Center** go to www.haycenter.org or call **713-884-3300**



Preparation for Adult Living (PAL)



The Region 6 Preparation for Adult Living (PAL) Program, consisting of HCPS and DFPS staff members, helps make the transition to adulthood successful for youth in foster care. PAL services include independent living assessment,



Youth Services

The Harris County Youth Services Center (YSC) is a “hub” of support services for children and youth needing help.

The facility, located at 6300 Chimney Rock, allows the various agencies housed at the YSC to better coordinate the many services they offer.

Located in the building is staff from HCPS (Kinder Emergency Shelter, CYS, TRIAD Prevention Program, Medical/Dental Clinic and BEAR), the DFPS' Child Protective Services Point of Entry, Harris County Juvenile Probation Department, DePelchin Children's Center and Systems of Hope.

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Youth Services

Community Youth Services (CYS)



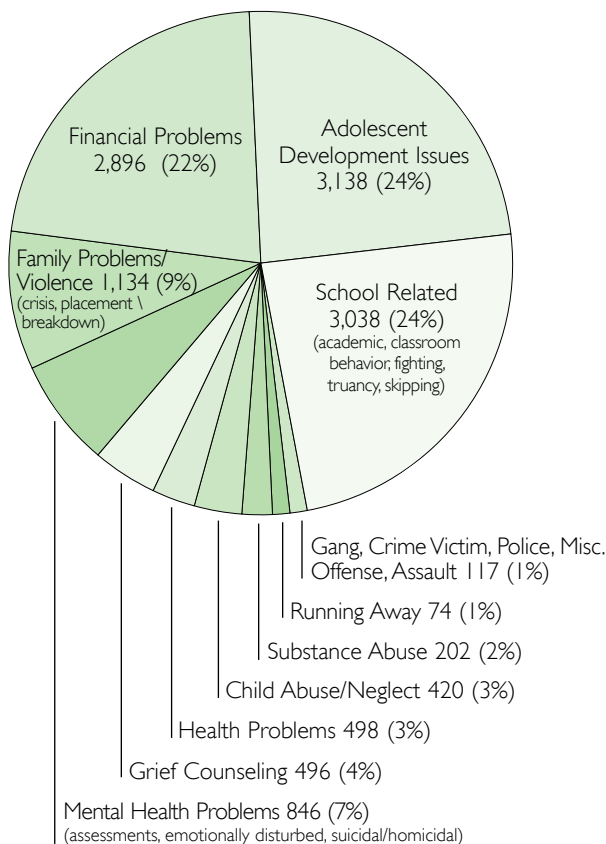
Community Youth Services (CYS) began as a crisis intervention and case management program, with 75 staff members, offers free, voluntary assistance to at-risk children and youth and their families.

Sixty-one of the CYS staff members have a unique shared funding partnership with 13 school districts as well as the Pasadena Police Department, the Educational Services Division of the Harris County Juvenile Probation Department, and the Community Education Partners Charter School. The goal of this program is to prevent at-risk youth from becoming victims of child abuse, running away, dropping out of school or entering into delinquent behavior. Additionally, CYS provides support services to runaway/homeless youth through the Safety Net program, and conflict resolution/mediation to youth and their parents through the Parent/Teen Survival program. During 2010, 797 parents and teens completed the 5-week course.

During 2010 CYS staff served 12,842 new youth referrals.

Reasons for New Referrals to CYS

During 2010 CYS staff served 12,842 new youth referrals.



CYS staff provided an additional 96,094 Student Support Services to students at school or in the community not related to open cases. Students may participate in multiple outreach event services.

For more information go to www.hc-ps.org

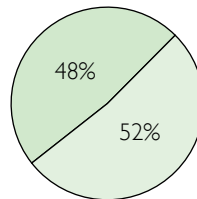
Kinder Emergency Shelter (KES)



The Nancy and Rich Kinder Emergency Shelter (KES) is an emergency residential facility that provides short-term services to youth, ages 12-17, who are in need of shelter and care due to abuse, neglect, or severe family conflict that prevents them from being safely reunited with their family. Youth stay at the Shelter until they can be safely returned home or to an alternative long-term placement. During 2010, 357 youth were placed in the 24 bed Shelter by caseworkers from DFPS/CPS, CYS, Systems of Hope, TRIAD Prevention Program and Harris County Juvenile Probation.

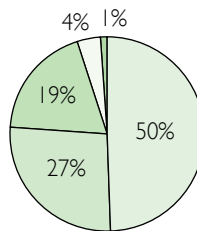
Also in 2010, KES continued to assist DFPS with the foster care crisis by providing overnight stays for CPS youth who otherwise would have spent the night in a caseworker's office due to the unavailability of an appropriate placement for the youth. KES provided 240 nights of emergency shelter to a total of 533 youth (duplicate count) during the year.

The Diversity of the Youth Sheltered



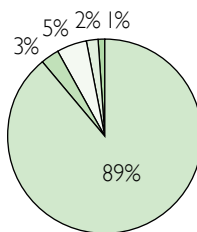
- ◆ 52% Female
- ◆ 48% Male

Race and Ethnicity



- ◆ 50% African American
- ◆ 27% Anglo
- ◆ 19% Hispanic
- ◆ 4% Other Races
- ◆ 1% Asian

Referral Resource



- ◆ 89% DFPS
- ◆ 5% Harris Co. Juvenile Probation
- ◆ 3% TRIAD
- ◆ 2% CYS
- ◆ 1% SOH

Youth Services

TRIAD Prevention Program



During 2010 20,779 at-risk youth were served.

TRIAD Prevention Program is a consortium of three county agencies (Protective Services for Children and Adults, Juvenile Probation and Mental Health/Mental Retardation Authority) working together to coordinate their resources to serve at-risk youth. TRIAD provides countywide prevention and early intervention services to divert youth and families from involvement with the CPS, mental health and/or juvenile justice systems.

Phone calls coming into three hotlines are handled by TRIAD Intake Diversion staff 24-hours a day: the Baby Abandonment Prevention Hotline, the TRIAD hotline and STAR* hotline. A total of 1,798 hotline calls were handled by TRIAD staff in 2010.



TRIAD Prevention Program At-Risk Youth served in year 2010

JP Court Program	13,731
Truancy Learning Camp	133
Services To At-Risk Youth (STAR)*.....	428
Parenting with Love and Limits (PLL)	99
Intake/Diversion	1,674
Mental Health Services	94
Community Youth Development (CYD)*.....	2,822
Hotline Calls	1,798
TOTAL	20,779

*STAR, CYD and the Universal Child Abuse Prevention Project are programs funded by Texas Department of Family and Protective Services. Truancy Learning Camp is funded by Harris County Community Services Department.

For more information on **TRIAD Prevention Programs**, go to www.hc-ps.org

Youth Services

Systems of Hope (SOH)



Harris County Systems of Hope (SOH) is a project funded in majority by SAMHSA (Substance Abuse Mental Health Service Administration), TRIAD, and the Hogg

Foundation for Mental Health to develop a county-wide system of care to assist children and youth, from age 6 to 15, with severe emotional disturbance and their families. The program utilizes the wraparound process, which is a team-based service planning approach to insure that services/treatment is:

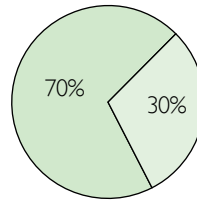
- ◆ Family driven/families as partners
- ◆ Youth guided
- ◆ Culturally and Linguistically Competent
- ◆ Individualized and strength based
- ◆ Community based
- ◆ Collaborative
- ◆ Flexible funding
- ◆ Balance of formal and informal supports
- ◆ Unconditional commitment
- ◆ Outcomes determined and measured.

The SOH initiative is a collaboration of child serving agencies in Harris County including Harris County Juvenile Probation Department, DePelchin Children's Center, Mental Health and Mental Retardation Authority of Harris County, the City of Houston, and the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services. SOH works closely with the Houston Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health to assure family and youth involvement as full partners.

SOH Care Teams, consisting of a Care Coordinator and a Parent Partner, assists families in the Kashmere and Sunnyside/South Park areas of Houston. The teams provide support for the youth and families through the use of traditional and non-traditional services. The SOH Youth Advisory Council (YAC) ensures that the youth in the program have a voice and the Houston Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health ensures that families have a voice. Family members and youth actively participate in all aspects of system development, including governance and evaluation.

A national evaluation of the project supports the effectiveness of Systems of Hope through the following outcomes:

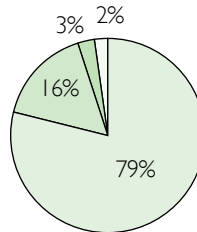
- ◆ Improved school attendance and performance
- ◆ Stabilized living situations
- ◆ In-patient hospitalization days per youth decreased
- ◆ Caregivers report overall improvement in family functioning
- ◆ Decrease in substance abuse.



Diversity

Total Number of Children Served: 182

- ◆ Female: 30%
- ◆ Male: 70%

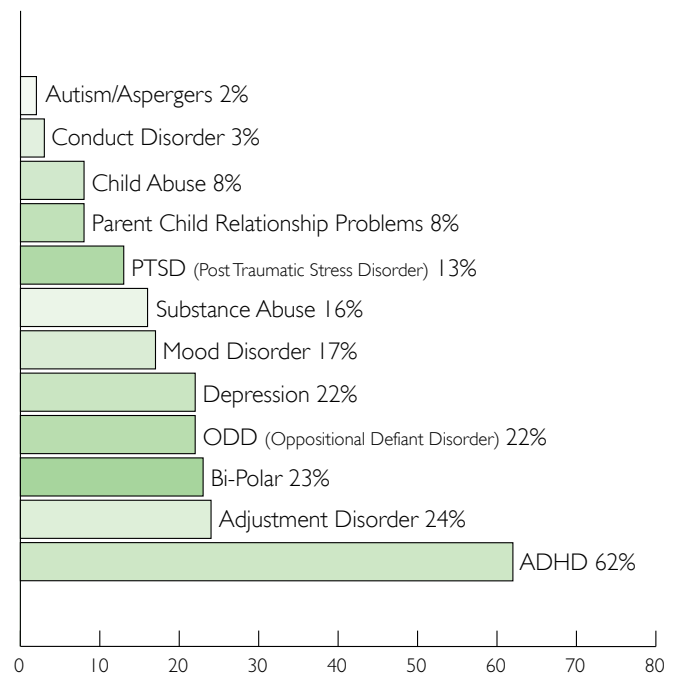


Race and Ethnicity

- ◆ African American: 79%
- ◆ Hispanic: 16%
- ◆ Anglo: 3%
- ◆ Asian: 0%
- ◆ Other: 2%

Diagnosis

46% youth have two or more Axis I diagnoses.



For more information on **Systems of Hope** contact:
713-795-HOPE • www.systemsofhope.org



Adult Services

The Harris County Guardianship Program (HCGP)



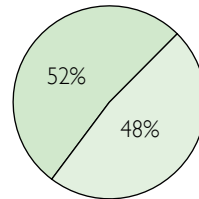
The Harris County Guardianship Program (HCGP) provides guardianship services to adults who are determined by one of Harris County's four Probate Courts to be incapacitated.

Specially trained case managers ensure that the wards maintain the highest degree of independence, dignity and respect, while protecting them from abuse, neglect, and exploitation. They also provide appropriate management of wards' property, finances, and daily needs such as food, clothing, shelter, and medical care. Guardianship services continue until the wards improve to a point where the court finds them fully capable of handling their own affairs; until the court appoints successor guardians, such as family or friends; or until the wards pass away. At the end of December 31, 2010, there were 1,431 court-appointed wards in the Guardianship Program.

Representative Payee Program (RPP): The guardianship program administers the Representative Payee Program (RPP). RPP is a case management program designed to assist eligible low-income Harris County adults who are elderly, physically, or mentally disabled with financial management so they can remain living independently in the community. A case manager with the Guardianship Program is responsible for paying the client's monthly rent and bills and verifies that the basic needs of the client are met.

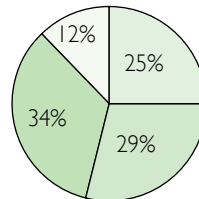
Community volunteers, such as the Guardianship Angels, also play a significant role in the lives of HCGP wards and representative payee clients by either giving of their time, talents or resources.

For more information and opportunities to get involved, contact the
Guardianship Program at 713-363-2300



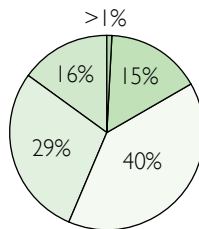
The Diversity of the Wards

- ◆ 48% Female
- ◆ 52% Male



Incapacities

- ◆ 25% Developmental Disability
- ◆ 29% Mental Deterioration
- ◆ 34% Mental Illness
- ◆ 12% Physical Incapacity



Wards by Age

- ◆ >1% - 18 to 21 yrs
- ◆ 16% - 22 to 39 yrs
- ◆ 40% - 40 to 59 yrs
- ◆ 29% - 60 to 79 yrs
- ◆ 15% - 80 yrs and over

Total Number of wards as of December 31, 2010: 1,431

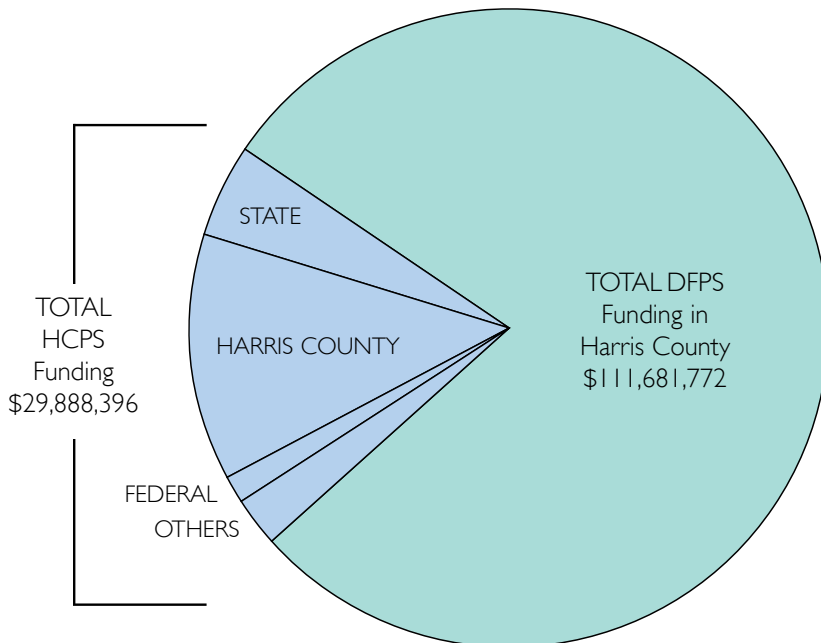


CPS in Harris County 2010 Funding

	<i>DFPS*</i> DFPS Funds in Harris Co.	<i>HCPS**</i>					Combined Funding in Harris County
		State	Harris County	Federal	Others	Total HCPS	
Staff Salaries, Benefits and Travel	\$40,949,251	\$3,319,632	\$15,175,120	\$1,398,220	\$3,080,381	\$22,973,353	\$63,922,605
Children's Foster and Institutional Care	61,253,042	436,243	604,440	0	0	1,040,683	62,293,725
Children's Services Contract	6,212,910	1,696,299	458,800	614,313	334,557	3,103,969	9,316,879
Children's Medical Services	0	158,788	140,612	0	0	299,400	299,400
General and Administrative	3,266,569	779,770	1,523,736	1,379	166,105	2,470,990	5,737,559
TOTAL	\$111,681,772	\$6,390,732	\$17,902,708	\$2,013,912	\$3,581,044	\$29,888,396	\$141,570,168

* DFPS fiscal year: September 1, 2009 - August 31, 2010
DFPS funding sources: state and federal government.

** HCPS fiscal year: March 1, 2010 - February 28, 2011
HCPS funding sources: state, county, federal government
and other sources such as grants and foundations.



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Agency Phone Numbers and Web Sites

Agency Phone Numbers

Texas Abuse Hotline (children & adults)	1-800-252-5400
Baby Abandonment Hotline	1-877-904-SAVE
BEAR...BE A Resource for CPS Kids	713-940-3073
Child Protective Services (DFPS) Point of Entry	713-295-2650
Children's Crisis Care Center (4C's)	713-394-4402
HCPS Medical/Dental Clinic	713-295-2570
Community Youth Services	713-295-2530
Foster and Adoption Inquiry Line	1-800-233-3405
Guardianship Program	713-363-2300
PO Box 20605, Houston, TX 77225	
Gulfton and Pasadena Community Youth Development (CYD)	713-501-7004
Harris County Protective Services for Children and Adults	713-394-4000
Harris County Youth Services Center	713-295-2500
6300 Chimney Rock , Houston, TX 77081	
Houston Alumni & Youth (HAY) Center and PAL Program	713-884-3300
1906 Cochran St., Houston, TX 77009	
Kinder Emergency Shelter	713-295-2700
Services to At-Risk Youth (STAR)	713-664-3459
Texas Department of Family and Protective Services	512-438-4800
Texas Runaway Hotline	1-888-580-4357(HELP)
TRIAD Prevention Program	713-295-2600
Systems of Hope	713-795-HOPE

Agency Web Sites

Harris County Protective Services for Children and Adults	www.hc-ps.org
Texas Department of Family and Protective Services	www.dfps.state.tx.us
To Report abuse on a secure web site	www.txabusehotline.org
Child Abuse Prevention.....	www.itsuptoyou.org
BEAR...BE A Resource for CPS Kids	www.bearesourcehouston.org
Texas Adoption Resource Exchange	www.adoptchildren.org
To Volunteer	www.volunteerdfps.org
Systems of Hope	www.systemsofhope.org
Houston Alumni & Youth (HAY) Center.....	www.haycenter.org
Texas Youth Connection.....	www.texasyouthconnection.org



CPS in Harris County

2525 Murworth Drive • Houston, Texas 77054 • 713-394-4000

To report abuse and neglect: 1-800-252-5400 • www.txabusehotline.org