

All children
deserve to grow
up in a safe and
stable family

*Children thrive under the guidance of strong, nurturing
and permanent relationships with caring adults*

The Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) has adopted successful new approaches to address the needs of children and families. We are listening to, learning from, and working with families and communities so that children can remain safely at home whenever possible or have a new family through adoption, rather than being raised in foster care.

Our three key goals at DCFS are improved safety, increased permanence and a reduced reliance on out-of-home care.

Engaging Communities to Prevent Abuse and Neglect

Children's safety depends on strong families and strong families depend on their connections to one another, to organizations, and to networks of community support. DCFS has joined with community residents and leading community providers of children and family services in a county-wide project to create and expand networks that support children being raised in healthy families and thriving communities.

Securing Positive Results for Children and Families

DCFS is implementing proven practices that improve child safety and family stability – streamlined upfront assessments, family team decision-making and permanency planning – resulting in less time spent in care, more safe family reunifications and more timely permanency. The number of children in foster care placement in Los Angeles County has decreased to an all-time low.

Flexible Funding for Reform

LA County applied for and received authority to use federal funds more flexibly to focus on prevention of abuse and neglect, strengthening families and communities to keep children from entering foster care, and achieving faster, safe reunification or alternate permanent family for children in care.

Los Angeles is a National Leader in Child Welfare

New initiatives with proven results have established DCFS as a national leader in child welfare reform. Child welfare agencies from across the country are looking to Los Angeles County as a model of successful child welfare practice and change.



Visit the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services at: www.lacdcfs.org

