



children's home + aid

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Children's Home + Aid's Statement on the Executive Order Establishing the Governor's Cabinet on Children and Youth

Chicago, IL - (February 18, 2016) - We applaud Governor Rauner's formation of a Cabinet on Children and Youth. The many sources of funding and multiple state agencies that administer the services children need as they develop over 20 years often create artificial distinctions that distract us from our goal of growing healthy, educated children who are safe and thriving in strong communities.

Governor Rauner's executive action establishing a Cabinet on Children and Youth creates the opportunity to better promote the health, well-being and education of children from birth until they step into college and careers as young adults. By bringing together the heads of all of the state departments that serve children and youth, the Cabinet can leverage resources, collectively identify needs for services and coordinate the most effective responses.

Illinois now joins over 20 states across the nation with a Cabinet on Children and Youth. These Cabinets have fostered joint decision-making, eliminated bureaucratic barriers and aligned programs and resources to yield the best outcomes.

Children's Home + Aid, with our colleagues from the Federation for Community Schools and the United Way of Illinois, was pleased to provide information from national experts to support the Governor's creation of the Cabinet on Children and Youth.

About Children's Home + Aid

Children's Home + Aid is a leading child and family service agency in Illinois. The organization helps children recover their health, their hope, and their faith in the people around them. We link children to a network of opportunity and care, to extended family, teachers, mentors, and the resources of the neighborhood and community. For 133 years, the organization has gone wherever children and families need them, and where that work has been proven to be most effective: at home, in the classroom, in the neighborhood, in the course of daily life. The organization has offices located across Illinois and serves more than 40,000 children and families in over 60 counties each year. For more information about Children's Home + Aid, visit childrenshomeandaid.org.