



children's home + aid

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 9, 2014

MEDIA CONTACT:

Jassen Strokosch at (312.718.6734) jstrokosch@childrenshomeandaid.org

Statement Regarding Recent Campaign Ads Linking Governor Quinn to DCFS-Involved Abuse and Neglect Deaths

Protecting and caring for children in Illinois should be a top agenda item for all our elected officials and we welcome increased awareness of the problem. Recently however, sound bite driven debates of DCFS-involved abuse or neglect deaths have reduced the complex issue of child welfare to a single statistic that does a disservice to the children we all want to protect.

Everyone plays a role in making Illinois a better place for children and families. Protecting vulnerable children and putting them on the path to a healthy, productive life requires all of us, regardless of our politics, to work together.

We must do better. Nearly seven child abuse and neglect deaths occur each day in America. Addressing this national issue within Illinois is going to take frank and open debate that acknowledges this as a complex problem.

As advocates and organizations that spend every day working to improve the lives of children and families across Illinois, we stand able and ready to work with our elected officials to do this work even better. Let's take the next step by coming together to ensure every child has the chance to grow up in a safe and loving home.

Nancy Ronquillo
President & CEO
Children's Home + Aid

Roy Harley
Executive Director
Prevent Child Abuse Illinois

Gene Svebakken
President & CEO
Lutheran Child and Family Services of Illinois

Gaylord Gieseke
President
Voices for Illinois Children