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children's home + aid
celebrating **130** years of service

Expulsion Three Times More Likely in Preschool than K-12
Conference hosted by Children's Home + Aid and
Governor's Office of Early Childhood Development Explores Solutions

Bloomington, IL (March 8, 2014) -- Children's Home + Aid and the Governor's Office of Early Childhood Development hosted a day-long conference today entitled *Expelled by Five: Implications for Early Childhood and Beyond*. Bloomington's Mayor Tari Renner opened the event, which was attended by renowned experts in the field of early childhood education and over 100 Illinois childhood representatives and childhood education providers. The event included a keynote and panel discussion by childhood experts surrounding the issue of preschool expulsion, as well as training to enhance providers' skills to improve children's success and combat this local and national issue.

"As the third largest child welfare organization in the state, we have an enormous investment in ensuring the provision of high-quality early childhood care and education for the children of Illinois," said Paula Corrigan-Halpern, Vice President of Public Policy + Strategic Initiatives at Children's Home + Aid.

"As we celebrate NAEYC Week of the Young Child, we have the perfect opportunity to call attention to the issues behind preschool expulsion," Corrigan-Halpern continued. "In partnership with the Governor's Office of Early Childhood Development, this symposium aims to improve practice, further the discussion of the best strategies - at the federal, state and local levels - and enhance the skills of program staff and administrators who work directly with children and families."

To download high-resolution photos of the event, click [here](#).

The keynote speaker was Walter S. Gilliam, Director of The Edward Zigler Center in Child Development and Social Policy at the Yale School of Medicine, whose research was recently cited in *The New York Times* editorial [Giving Up on 4-Year-Olds](#).

A panel discussion was also hosted and panelists included Colette Lueck, Managing Director, Illinois Children's Mental Health Partnership and Elena Quintana, Ph.D., Executive Director, Institute on Public Safety & Social Justice, The Adler School of Professional Psychology.

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 130 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. Children's Home + Aid launched the Center for Policy, Practice and Innovation to pioneer

approaches in program design and delivery and to advance effective public policy at the state and national levels.

The organization has offices located across Illinois and serve more than 40,000 children and families in over 60 counties each year. For more information about Children's Home + Aid, visit childrenshomeandaid.org