



## AGENCY OVERVIEW

Each year, Children's Home & Aid protects, educates, and counsels children and families through three core program areas: Early Childhood Education, Child Welfare, and Family and Community Services. In 2013, Children's Home & Aid launched the Ahlquist Center for Policy, Practice & Innovation to advocate, innovate and lead the call for better outcomes for children, youth and families in Illinois. We have been recognized for establishing best practices and achieving outstanding results. As a leading and founding member of the Children's Home Society of America, Children's Home & Aid also achieves a rare combination of both deep local impact in Illinois and broad national presence.

Twenty-four hours a day, 365 days a year, in communities all across Illinois, we give children a place to belong and the support they need to love, to learn, to heal, to dream, and to reach their potential. *We do whatever it takes so children, youth and families thrive in strong communities.*



**Children's Home & Aid served nearly 30,000** children and families through direct and indirect services in Fiscal Year 2019.

**Children's Home & Aid employs** approximately 829 employees statewide, and nearly 600 licensed foster families. Children's Home & Aid works out of 23 locations in 60 counties in Illinois and our regional offices are headed in Granite City, Rockford, Bloomington and Chicago.

### Child Welfare Services

*Protecting children from abuse, strengthening families and providing safe, permanent and loving homes.*

**Foster Care:** 1,499 abused and neglected children were kept safe in foster homes.

- **182 children** were adopted from foster care into permanent families.
- **23 children** were provided long-term permanent guardianship from family or close
- The biological parents of **90 children**, through services, were able to be safely reunited with their children

**Residential Services:** 53 children were helped to heal from the trauma of severe abuse and neglect through intensive 24/7 therapeutic residential treatment.

**Adoption Support Services:** 224 families were provided individual and family counseling, support groups, respite care to strengthen struggling families to keep children from entering the child welfare system

**Intact Family Services:** Over 2,554 children and 1,156 families benefitted from services to stabilize families that have suffered abuse, neglect or extreme hardship.

### Early Education Services

*Building a strong foundation for a lifetime of learning*

**1,043 children** from low-income families received vital early care and education to promote school readiness and healthy development at our five child & family centers.

**15,405 parents and children** were helped to access affordable, high-quality early childhood care and education.

### Family & Community Services

*Promoting hope, opportunity and bright futures*  
**Child and Family Counseling:** 958 children received behavioral health services.

**Parent Support:** Parent's Care & Share support groups ease the stress and frustrations that often come with raising a child. **3,791 parents** built their skills and learned about their child's development, benefitting **1,317 children**, through Parents Care & Share support groups.

**Youth Services:** 858 at risk youth received help to ensure their success at home, in school and in their community.

**Home Visiting:** Home visitors coached **629 families** striving to do well by their children

**146 families** also had support from a specially trained home visitor called a **Doula**