

### April 2022 Blue Bow Campaign Statistics

In Illinois (FY'21)<sup>1</sup>

- Illinois ranks fourth in the nation for child maltreatment.<sup>2</sup>
- 75% of children who are maltreated are victims of neglect.<sup>3</sup>
- 200,607 hotline calls were received by DCFS
  - on average: 550 per day, 23 per hour
- 86,738 investigations were conducted
- 42,414 were indicated as abused or neglected
- 84 children died because of child maltreatment in Illinois
  - 18 died from child abuse
  - 66 died from child neglect
- 4,576 children were indicated as sexually abused.
- 20,000 women in Chicago were sex trafficked. It is estimated that a significant percentage includes females under age 18.<sup>4</sup>
- The persistently high rates of child neglect and its serious consequences point to the need for more effective prevention and early intervention in neglect cases.<sup>5</sup>
- Families with one or more protective factors may be less likely to experience abuse or neglect.<sup>6</sup>

### National Child Abuse and Neglect Statistics

- 618,399 indicated children last year<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> DCFS, [https://www2.illinois.gov/dcf/aboutus/newsandreports/Documents/ESS\\_Protective\\_Services.pdf](https://www2.illinois.gov/dcf/aboutus/newsandreports/Documents/ESS_Protective_Services.pdf) and [https://www2.illinois.gov/dcf/aboutus/newsandreports/Documents/ESS\\_Intake\\_Events.pdf](https://www2.illinois.gov/dcf/aboutus/newsandreports/Documents/ESS_Intake_Events.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> See the chart from Statista, <https://www.statista.com/statistics/203841/number-of-child-abuse-cases-in-the-us-by-state/>

<sup>3</sup> *Acts of Omission: An Overview of Child Neglect*. Children's Bureau/ACYF/ACF/HHS, p. 1. <https://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/focus/acts/>

<sup>4</sup> According to the DreamCatcher Foundation in Chicago.

<sup>5</sup> *Acts of Omission*, p. 2.

<sup>6</sup> *Acts of Omission*, p. 7

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.statista.com/statistics/639375/number-of-child-abuse-cases-in-the-us/>

- 1,750 child deaths in 2020<sup>8</sup>

### The Need for Awareness is Great. Join Our Campaign.

- Public awareness of the pervasiveness of child abuse and neglect is vital for prevention efforts. “Intervention and advocacy for child abuse prevention are dependent upon how the public views the issue.”<sup>9</sup>
- “The abuse prevention message needs to be communicated to the general population through a wide array of media outlets— and individuals, as well as communities, need to accept responsibility for the well-being and healthy development of their children.”<sup>10</sup>
- For more information about the Blue Bow Campaign, visit our website:  
[www.childrenhomeandaid.org/bluebow](http://www.childrenhomeandaid.org/bluebow)

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<sup>8</sup> <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/media/press/2022/child-fatalities-due-abuse-and-neglect-decreased-fy-2020-report-finds#:~:text=fiscal%20year%202020,-,An%20estimated%201%2C750%20children%20died%20from%20abuse%20and%20neglect%20during,maltreatment%20during%20fiscal%20year%202019.>

<sup>9</sup> *Public Perceptions of Child Maltreatment: A national convenience sample*. By Craig Winston LeCroy and Skyler Milligan LeCroy. *Children and Youth Services Review*, Vol 119, December 2020.  
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0190740920321009>

<sup>10</sup> Daro, Deborah. “Child Abuse Prevention: A Job Half Done.” (2010).