



Joette Katz
Commissioner

DEPARTMENT of CHILDREN and FAMILIES

Making a Difference for Children, Families and Communities



Dannel P. Malloy
Governor

It is with great pleasure that I inform you that you have been selected to serve as a member of the Strengthening Families Regional Implementation Team, Region IV, Hartford and Manchester Area Offices.

An important goal of this team is to bring together a diverse group of social work staff and stakeholders from around the region. Attendees will include DCF social workers and managers, community providers, families and key state partner agencies.

The team is intended to be a time limited focused group that will move forward a Strengthening Families practice model that emphasizes child-focused family-centered practice, collaborative casework, community-partnership, and measurable outcomes.

The team is also tasked with developing a plan to move forward other critical initiatives such as:

- the Differential Response System,
- expansion of and increased support for foster families, with special attention to relative family placements,
- reduced reliance on congregate care for children and youth in the care and custody of the Department, beginning with children ages 12 and younger,
- increased use of evidence-based in-home and community programs and implementation of performance-based contracting for DCF provider agencies and
- improvement in case planning and meeting children's and families' needs

The Department of Children and Families is committed to achieving positive outcomes for children and their families involved with the child welfare system. The Strengthening Families Regional Implementation Team is a critical piece of this work. I look forward to partnering with you on this very important initiative.

Our first meeting will take place on October 20, 2011 at 9:00a.m. in the Large Conference room of the Manchester Area office.

Michael C. Williams,
Regional Administrator
Region 4:
Hartford/Manchester Area Offices