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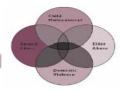


ON THE LINK BETWEEN ANIMAL ABUSE AND HUMAN VIOLENCE



www.NationalLinkCoalition.org
Phil Arkow, Coordinator and Editor





ANIMAL ABUSE &... CHILD MALTREATMENT



Agency Creates Cross-Reporting Card for Caseworkers

The Connecticut Department of Children & Families, which is one of only a handful of state child protective services agencies where employees are mandated reporters of suspected animal abuse, has created a handy card that caseworkers can reference when they encounter situations that suggest animal maltreatment.

The attractive cards are laminated. The top of the cards features lists of the common physical and environmental signs of animal cruelty. The bottom of the card provides details of the procedures by which DCF employees are to contact their local animal control officer and file an electronic form with the Department of Agriculture.

The cards also note that "when there are signs of child maltreatment or IPV [intimate partner violence] in the home, pets should be considered at risk for animal cruelty."

The cards could serve as a template for other state CPS agencies and could similarly be modified to help animal control and humane officers recognize and respond to suspected child abuse and neglect.

Link Training in Connecticut



The National Link Coalition's Phil Arkow (left) was a featured speaker at a Connecticut DCF training on The Link. Joining Phil were DCF officials Jody Hill-Lily, Diane Rosell and Jackie Ford; Senior Asst. State's Attorney Tom O'Brien; UConn law professor Jessica Rubin; and Renee Dinino from I V Radio.