

Introduction

This report covers Sept. 1, 1986, through Aug. 31, 1987. During that time, significant legislative changes were enacted, including statutory definitions of child abuse and neglect, which resulted in major changes to the Child Protective Services program beginning Sept. 1, 1987. This report reflects policy and practice prior to those major changes.

Texas Department of Human Services

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June 1988



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About This Report

I am pleased to present the second annual report of the Protective Services for Families and Children program in Texas. We receive many requests for program data each year from a variety of sources—journalists, special interest groups, students, and members of the general public—and trust that this report will serve to answer questions for those wishing to know more about the Texas Child Protective Services program and the Family Violence and Services to Truants and Runaways programs. Compiling this report gave us an opportunity to view data about these programs in new ways, which will be useful to us in developing methods to improve our service delivery systems.

The recent economic crisis in Texas has contributed to increased workloads for our staff, while dwindling resources have made it difficult to maintain services at needed levels. We are committed to meeting the challenge which has been presented to us and hope that sharing the information in this report will prompt the people of Texas to become involved in efforts to alleviate these pressing social problems.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "James C. Marquart".

James C. Marquart, Ph.D.
Assistant Commissioner
Protective Services for Families
and Children Branch
Texas Department of Human Services

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