



**Breaking the cycle of child abuse and  
reducing crime:**

*Coaching parents through intensive home visiting*

Fight Crime: Invest in Kids *Illinois*



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This report was authored by William Christeson, Tim Carpenter, Sally Puleo, and Soren Messner-Zidell.

The following staff members of **Fight Crime: Invest in Kids** contributed to the production of this report: Jerry Blackmon, Meredith Wiley, Miriam Rollin, and David Kass.

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Publication Design by J.Blackmon II.



# Breaking the cycle of child abuse and reducing crime:

## *Coaching parents through intensive home visiting*

### Executive Summary

The more than 200 police chiefs, sheriffs, state's attorneys, leaders of police officer organizations and violence survivors who are members of **Fight Crime: Invest in Kids Illinois**, and the over 3,500 members of **Fight Crime: Invest in Kids** nationwide, have taken a hard-nosed look at what works—and what does not work—to cut crime and violence. Extensive evidence shows that children who suffered abuse or neglect are more likely to grow up to commit crimes. Solid research shows that nearly half of all abuse and neglect in high-risk families can now be prevented by programs that also prepare children to succeed in school. Preventing abuse and neglect will directly protect children and save lives. Sharply reducing abuse and neglect will also save the public hundreds of millions of dollars in Illinois while greatly reducing the number of children growing up to be violent criminals.

### **THE ANNUAL TOLL IN ILLINOIS: 28,516 ABUSED AND NEGLECTED CHILDREN THE FUTURE TOLL: MORE THAN 1,100 ADDITIONAL VIOLENT CRIMINALS**

In Illinois, 28,516 children were officially confirmed as victims of abuse or neglect in 2007. The true number is likely far higher. From 2000 through 2007, 582 children were officially documented as dying from abuse or neglect in Illinois. Nearly half of the Illinois children killed by abuse or neglect die before their first birthday. Nationally, only about one in ten fatalities from abuse or neglect involve children whose families had received services from child protective services. Illinois Department of Children & Family Services (DCFS) apparently does not report this data, but it is very likely that in Illinois, as nationally, relying only on DCFS to find and protect vulnerable children will not suffice to prevent most deaths from abuse and neglect.

While most victimized children who survive never become violent criminals, being abused or neglected sharply increases the risk that children will grow up to be arrested for a violent crime. The best available research indicates that, of the 28,516 children who had confirmed incidents of abuse or neglect in one year, more than 1,100 will become violent criminals as adults who otherwise would have avoided such crimes if not for the abuse and neglect they endured. Year after year, abuse and neglect creates more violent criminals in Illinois.

### **RESEARCH SHOWS MOST ABUSE AND NEGLECT IN HIGH-RISK FAMILIES CAN BE PREVENTED**

Failure to invest now in programs that coach at-risk parents in parenting and other skills that are proven to prevent child abuse and neglect puts every Illinoisan at greater risk of becoming a victim of crime. Members of **Fight Crime: Invest in Kids** call on Illinois to offer intensive, voluntary home visiting programs to all at-risk pregnant women and parents of infants and toddlers.

Home visiting provided by trained professionals to interested at-risk young mothers can significantly reduce abuse and neglect. One program, the Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP) has followed the children it served long enough to show significant crime reductions and a range of other long-term benefits. The NFP program in Elmira, N.Y. randomly assigned at-risk pregnant women home visits by nurses. Starting before the birth of their first child and continuing until the child was two years old, the nurses coached the young women in parenting and other skills and helped the mothers address their own problems. Rigorous research, originally published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, shows that children of mothers in the program had 48 percent fewer substantiated reports of abuse or neglect. Put another way: intensive home visiting services can prevent nearly half of all cases of abuse or neglect of at-risk children.

By the time the children had reached age 15, mothers in the program had 61 percent fewer arrests than mothers left out of the program, and their children had 59 percent fewer arrests than the kids left out. When this program was later replicated and carefully studied in Memphis, the children not receiving NFP were four times more likely than the children in NFP to die by age 10 from any cause. A further replication underway in Denver has so far produced similarly strong results.

NFP serves children and families in three counties in Illinois. In one county, Kane, NFP is serving 140 children a year. Other programs providing home visiting services — including Healthy Families Illinois (HFI), Parents Too Soon, Parents as Teachers, and Early Head Start — serve over 15,000 children.

A recent randomized controlled trial of Healthy Families in New York (HFNY) showed the potential of Healthy Families. It found HFNY increased children's health insurance coverage and the rate of children born with low birth weight was 2.5 times higher for the children not receiving HFNY than it was for children receiving home visits. The evaluation also found that mothers in the program reported engaging in one eighth as many acts of very serious physical abuse as the mothers not receiving services (for example: hitting a child with her fist, kicking a child, or slapping a child's face).

At best, only one in seven zero- to three-year-old Illinois children whose families are below the poverty line are currently receiving home visiting services. Much more funding is needed if all at-risk pregnant women who could benefit are to be offered this voluntary service.

## **SAVING LIVES, PREVENTING CRIME, AND SAVING MONEY**

Preventing child abuse and neglect will not only save lives and reduce crime, it will also save taxpayers money. Maintaining the existing child protective system in Illinois alone costs the federal and state governments combined over \$1.2 billion a year. Until the number of victims of abuse or neglect is reduced, those expenses are unavoidable. Yet that is only a small part of the overall costs to taxpayers and society as a whole from abuse and neglect. A study commissioned by the U.S. Justice Department concluded that child abuse and neglect cost taxpayers and crime victims over \$80 billion a year in the United States and the same researchers estimated the total costs each year for Illinois are over \$4.6 billion. A Washington State Institute for Public Policy analysis found that NFP reduced crime so effectively among high-risk families that it produced average net savings of over \$27,000 per family.

## **LAW ENFORCEMENT LEADERS ARE UNITED**

Law enforcement leaders and violence survivors are united in calling for greater investments in home visiting. An Illinois survey of over 350 police chiefs, sheriffs, and prosecutors was conducted by George Mason University professors. The law enforcement leaders were asked to rate which school and youth crime prevention strategies are the most effective. Sixty-one percent of law enforcement leaders ranked "parent coaching for high-risk families" as a very valuable crime prevention tool – higher than any other option, and much higher than the options of prosecuting more juveniles as adults or using more metal detectors in schools.

The evidence is in. Home visiting services can save the people in Illinois hundreds of millions of dollars a year while preventing half of all abuse and neglect in high-risk families and reducing crime. The time to act is now.

# Breaking the cycle of child abuse and reducing crime:

## *Coaching parents through intensive home visiting*

**F**rom shocking accounts on the evening news, most Illinois citizens are aware of the severe abuse and neglect some children suffer. Few people in the state, however, realize the breathtaking scope of the problem or the severity of its consequences. In 2007, there were 28,516 confirmed incidents of child abuse and neglect in Illinois; and from 2000 through 2007 there were 582 confirmed deaths from abuse and neglect.<sup>1</sup> This is not the end of the tragedy. Though many abused and neglected children grow up to lead fulfilling and productive lives, children who live through abuse or neglect are far more likely than other children to go on to harm or kill someone else — or themselves. A year's toll of abuse and neglect has consequences well into the future and well beyond the initial victims.

## The Hidden Toll of One Year of Abuse and Neglect

### FINDING THE CHILDREN

In a society obsessed with statistics, data on abused and neglected children routinely misses thousands of children. Grim as the official numbers are, the truth is that the real number of children injured and killed by abuse and neglect each year are much higher than the official counts.

According to a 1995 federal government study, the “Third National Incidence Study of Child Abuse and Neglect,” the actual number of children abused or neglected nationally each year is three times the officially reported number.<sup>2</sup> This includes abused or neglected children that social workers missed when they conducted their investigations, and all the abused or neglected children who were never brought to the attention of authorities in the first place because no one knew about them or someone knew but was unwilling to make a report. Three times the official figure of 28,516 confirmed cases would equal approximately 85,000 children abused and neglected in Illinois in 2007. It is impossible at this time to arrive at a firm number that everyone can agree accurately measures how many children are abused and neglected each year in Illinois, but there is little doubt that it is much higher than the officially reported figure.<sup>3</sup>

### 582 ILLINOIS CHILDREN DIED FROM ABUSE AND NEGLECT FROM 2000 THROUGH 2007

From 2000 through October 2007, the state of Illinois reported that 582 children were killed as a result of abuse or neglect.<sup>4</sup> Nationally, more than four in 10 children who died from abuse or neglect were killed before their first birthday.<sup>5</sup>

Research shows the official number of children killed by abuse or neglect is likely an undercount. In 2005, the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) recorded 1,460 children killed by abuse or neglect nationwide.<sup>6</sup> However, in a Justice Department publication, the National Center on Child Fatality Review concluded that “an estimated 2,000 children in the United States die of child abuse and neglect each year.”<sup>7</sup> A fatality review in California concluded that the true number of deaths in that state from abuse or neglect was three times the NCANDS number.<sup>8</sup> Similarly, an article in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* concluded that North Carolina had undercounted its deaths from abuse or neglect by a factor of three.<sup>9</sup>

As with the overall numbers for children abused or neglected, it may not be possible to agree on a definitive number for how many children are killed by abuse or neglect; one thing is



## ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES' DEFINITION OF CHILD ABUSE AND SERIOUS PHYSICAL NEGLECT

**PHYSICAL ABUSE** as defined by the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act (ANCRA), occurs when a parent or a person responsible for the child's welfare:

- Inflicts, causes to be inflicted, or allows to be inflicted upon such child physical injury, by other than accidental means, which causes death, disfigurement, impairment of physical or emotional health, or loss or impairment of any bodily function. Such common injuries include bruises, human bites, bone fractures, and burns.
- Creates a substantial risk of physical injury likely to have the physical impacts listed above.
- Acts of torture which is defined by DCFS as deliberately and/or systematically inflicting cruel or unusual treatment which results in physical or mental suffering.
- Inflicts excessive corporal punishment is included in ANCRA, but is not specifically further defined by DCFS. However, bruises inflicted on a child, especially a young child, are usually considered as meeting this definition.
- Commits or allows to be committed the offense of female genital mutilation.
- Causes to be sold, transferred, distributed, or given to such child under 18 years of age, a controlled substance (i.e. illegal drugs) except when prescribed by a physician.

**SEXUAL ABUSE** occurs when a person responsible for the child's welfare commits any of the following acts:

- Sexual penetration.
- Sexual exploitation is defined by DCFS as sexual use of a child for sexual arousal, gratification, advantage, or profit.
- Sexual molestation is defined by DCFS as sexual conduct with a child when such contact, touching, or interaction is used for arousal or gratification of sexual needs or desires.

**NEGLECT** occurs when a person responsible for the child deprives or fails to provide the child with adequate food, clothing, shelter, or needed medical treatment.

Neglect is also alleged when an adult provides inadequate supervision of a child. This can occur when children are left either unsupervised or in the care of someone unable to supervise due to his/her condition. Children can suffer injuries that are the result of blatant disregard and are considered neglect. Blatant disregard is a situation in which the risk of harm to a child is so imminent and apparent that it is unlikely that any parent or caretaker would expose the child to such without taking precautionary measures to protect the child.

Illinois Department of Children & Family Services, 2006

In Illinois, of the children who were abused or neglected in 2005, 26.5 percent suffered physical abuse, 18.9 percent suffered sexual abuse, and 66.2 percent suffered neglect (with some suffering from more than one form of abuse or neglect.)<sup>10</sup>

clear though: too many Illinois children continue to be abused or neglected, and too many are dying from it.

## CREATING CHILDREN PRIMED FOR VIOLENCE

Severe abuse and neglect, particularly when it occurs during the earliest months and years of life, can permanently injure children in ways that make them much more prone to violence. According to Dr. Bruce Perry, a neurobiologist and authority on brain development and children in crisis, "The systems in the human brain that allow us to form and maintain emotional relationships develop during infancy and the first years of life ... with severe emotional neglect in early childhood, the impact can be devastating."<sup>11</sup> Perry explains that severely neglected children frequently respond to mild provocation with aggression and cruelty that "is often accompanied by a detached, cold lack of empathy."<sup>12</sup> Research shows that neglect is as likely as physical abuse to lead to future criminal behavior when a child reaches adulthood.<sup>13</sup>

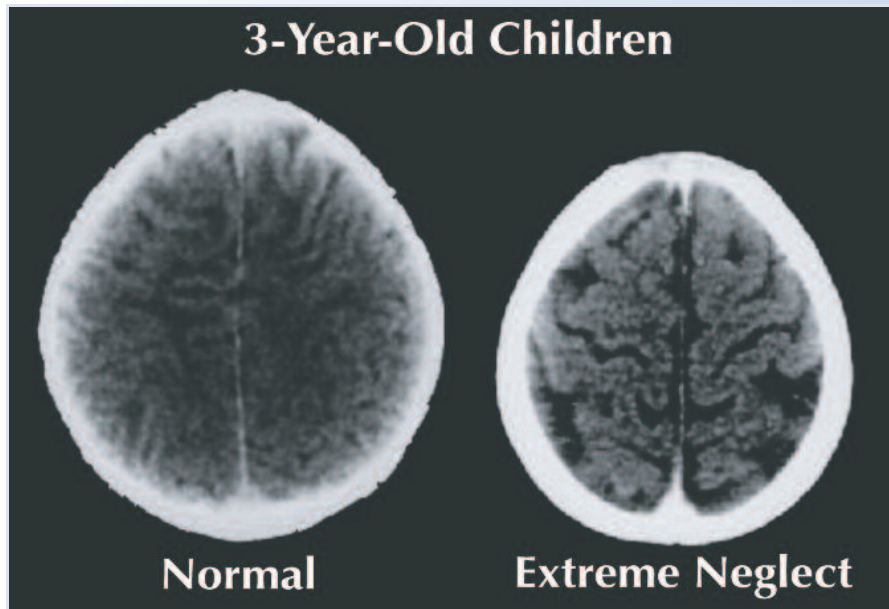
Physical abuse can cause post-traumatic stress disorders in children. Even when nothing is threatening them, abused children's brains can become "stuck" in high alert with very high resting heart rates and high levels of stress hormones in their blood. These children are predisposed to interpret others' actions as threatening and are quick to respond impulsively and aggressively in their own defense.<sup>14</sup> Perry warns: "The most dangerous children are created by a malignant combination of experiences. Developmental neglect and traumatic stress during childhood create violent, remorseless children."<sup>15</sup>

Of growing concern is the role head injuries play in violent behavior, particularly injuries to the frontal or temporal lobes of the brain. The frontal lobes are the seat of the capacities for planning and self-regulation as well as abstract thinking and judgment, while the temporal lobes contain the limbic system

that regulates aggression, impulsiveness, and the more primitive emotions such as jealousy and rage.<sup>16</sup> A baby or toddler's head is especially vulnerable to rough shaking or blows to the head that can cause shearing and microscopic lesions throughout the brain during this time of critical and rapid development. Young children's head injuries are often cumulative from repeated incidents of abuse and usually go undetected, except in the most extreme cases, because they leave no external marks. The damage done may not manifest itself until much later as the brain matures.<sup>17</sup>

A number of studies on adolescents and adults link head injuries to recurring aggression and violence. Studies done on death row inmates by Dr. Dorothy Lewis and her colleagues show that a high percentage of them have a history of serious head injury.<sup>18</sup> Many researchers have concluded that as many as 30 to 50 percent of individuals with a criminal history may have sustained injuries to their frontal or temporal lobes.<sup>19</sup>

## EFFECT OF NEGLECT ON BRAIN DEVELOPMENT



B. Perry, 2003

These images are from studies conducted by a team of researchers from the Child Trauma Academy in Houston led by Bruce D. Perry, M.D., Ph.D.

## One year of child abuse and neglect produces 1,100 violent criminals in Illinois

In 2007, there were 28,516 confirmed incidents of child abuse and neglect in Illinois.

Although surveys report varying numbers, it is clear that a high percentage of criminals were abused or neglected as children. One review of the literature on prior abuse and neglect concluded that approximately half of the youths arrested for delinquency had been abused and/or neglected earlier in their lives.<sup>20</sup> Many of these individuals, however, also had other risk factors for crime in their lives, such as poverty or growing up with high-crime peers.

In an effort to isolate the specific impact of abuse and neglect by controlling for other factors, Dr. Cathy Spatz Widom, a professor of psychology at the New Jersey Medical School, identified individuals who had been abused and neglected as children and compared them to otherwise similar individuals who had no official record of abuse or neglect. By studying the subsequent

arrest records and controlling for other demographic risk factors, Widom found that being abused and neglected almost doubles the odds that a child will commit a crime as a juvenile.<sup>21</sup>

As for violent crime, Widom found that 18 percent of the abused or neglected youngsters went on to be arrested for a violent crime either as juveniles or as adults, compared to 14 percent of similar individuals who shared the same other advantages and disadvantages as these children but who had not been abused or neglected as children—a difference of four percentage points.<sup>22</sup>

Applying Widom's four percent figure to Illinois' 28,516 confirmed cases of abuse and neglect in 2007 produces a figure of approximately 1,100 additional individuals who will be arrested for at least one violent crime beyond the number of those who would have been arrest-

ed had the abuse or neglect never occurred. In other words, the abuse or neglect will result in approximately 1,100 additional violent criminals and the violent crimes those individuals will commit.

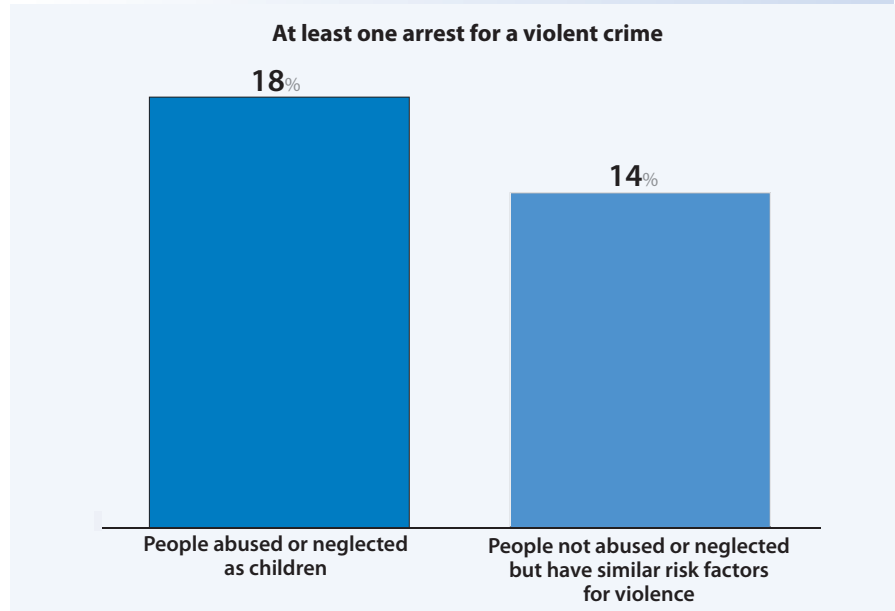
Widom cautions that her research does not indicate whether the same relationship would hold for unconfirmed cases of abuse or neglect, since those children may not have been as seriously harmed as the individuals whose abuse or neglect was confirmed. As previously discussed, it is estimated that in Illinois there are three times as many actual cases of abuse and neglect as the number of officially confirmed cases. Even if only a small percentage of these children go on to become violent criminals who otherwise would not have, the 1,100 figure will prove to be a significant underestimate of the number of additional violent criminals in Illinois resulting from the children who were abused and neglected in 2007; and each year more victims of child abuse and neglect – and more future criminals – are added to the total.

### WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE MOST SERIOUS CRIMINALS?

Children who are abused and neglected are not only more likely than other children to commit crimes as adults, they are also more likely than other criminals to be arrested at a younger age. This is a well-known risk factor that indicates these children might become both more serious and more chronic offenders, committing more crimes over their lifetimes.<sup>23</sup>

For example, a study done in Sacramento County, Calif. showed that children between the ages of nine and 12 reported to have been abused or neglected were 67 times more likely to be arrested than other children in that age group. Six percent of those who had been abused or neglected had already been arrested by age 12, compared to less than one-tenth of one percent of

## ABUSE AND NEGLECT PRODUCE MORE VIOLENT CRIMINALS



Compared to children with similar other risk factors but with no official record of abuse or neglect, children who had been abused or neglected were 29 percent more likely to grow up to be violent criminals.

other children in that age group.<sup>24</sup>

In their Rochester Youth Development study, Carolyn Smith and Terence Thornberry tracked 1,000 seventh- and eighth-grade students from Rochester, N.Y. up to age 22. They found that the more frequent and severe the maltreatment, the more likely the child was to commit more violent acts of delinquency.<sup>25</sup>

Perhaps most disturbing, researchers who have extensively interviewed extremely violent offenders are convinced that severe abuse or neglect was a defining influence in almost all of these violent offenders' lives.<sup>26</sup> For example, John Wayne Gacy, who murdered at least 30 people, had an alcoholic father and was physically, sexually, and psychologically abused as a child.<sup>27</sup> Dorothy Lewis and Jonathan Pincus, in addition to documenting the link between head injuries and extreme violence, interviewed 14 of the 37 juveniles facing death sentences nationally in 1986 and 1987.<sup>28</sup> They found that only one of those interviewed had not suffered childhood family violence and severe physical abuse.<sup>29</sup> John Douglas, one of the experts who helped

the FBI develop violent criminal profiles, reached similar conclusions from his studies.<sup>30</sup>

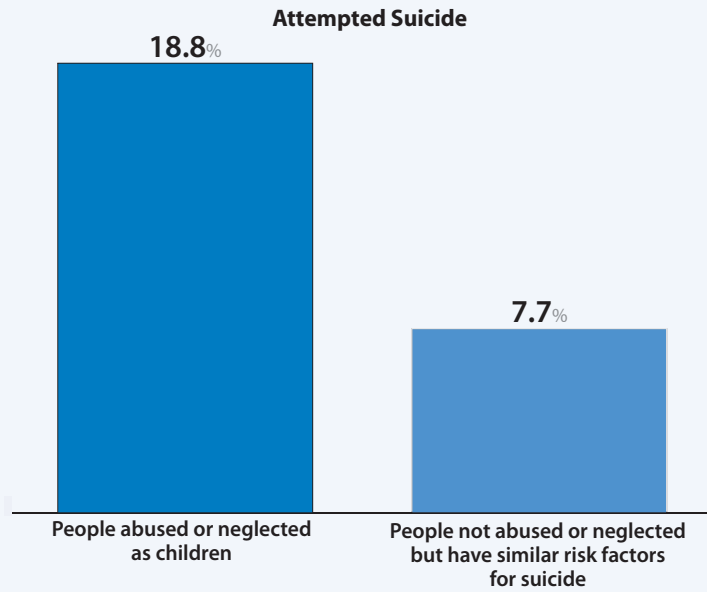
### CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT CAN LEAD TO LOST EMPLOYMENT, FAILED MARRIAGES AND SUICIDE

Most abused or neglected children never become involved in violent crime. While many grow up to lead productive lives, research by Widom and others shows that abuse and neglect often lead to other serious consequences for its victims. For example, individuals not abused or neglected as children were 40 percent more likely to be employed and 50 percent more likely to have stable marriages than similar individuals who were abused or neglected.<sup>31</sup>

Victims of child abuse or neglect, as they grow older, are also two and a half times more likely than other children to attempt suicide. Widom's research indicates that 18.8 percent of abused or neglected children later attempted suicide, compared to 7.7 percent of children with similar risk factors but who had not been abused or neglected.<sup>32</sup> This means that as



## ABUSE AND NEGLECT LEAD TO MORE SUICIDE ATEMPTS



M.G. Maxfield & C.S. Widom, 1996

Compared to children with similar other risk factors but with no official record of abuse or neglect, children who had been abused or neglected were more than twice as likely to attempt suicide later in life.

many as 3,100 Illinois children who were the victims of abuse and neglect in 2007 will ultimately attempt suicide who otherwise would not have if not for the abuse and neglect they endured. Although the number of these abused or neglected individuals who will succeed in killing themselves cannot be reliably estimated, a large number undoubtedly will succeed.<sup>33</sup>

### A CYCLE OF VIOLENCE

Research shows that all too often negative behaviors, violent or otherwise, are passed on to the next generation, and the cycle continues. One rigorous study showed that poor mothers who had been severely physically abused as children were 13 times more likely to abuse their children than mothers who had emotionally supportive parents.<sup>34</sup>

A sad example of this cycle of abuse and or neglect was reported recently in local Chicago newspapers. On Dec. 14, 2007, a mother caring for seven children became enraged and repeatedly beat her 2-year-old son until her hand was sore. The young boy died several hours later as a result of the injuries inflicted by his mother. The mother had herself experienced neglect by her own mother that was serious enough for her to be removed from her home and placed as a ward of the state of Illinois for 12 years. She spent her teen years cycling between the care of her grandmother and a group home.<sup>35</sup>

Research shows that all too often negative behaviors, violent or otherwise, are passed on to the next generation, and the cycle continues.

# Research Shows Abuse and Neglect Can Be Prevented

**Waiting to act against abuse and neglect until after it occurs will always be too late, and it may be fatal. DCFS services and foster care families are essential to help protect children who have already been identified as abused or neglected.**

**R**elying primarily on DCFS, however, to find and protect all vulnerable children will not be enough to save most children's lives. Nationally, only about one in ten fatalities from abuse or neglect involve children whose families had received services from child protective services in the last five years.<sup>36</sup> Illinois' DCFS apparently does not report this data,<sup>37</sup> but it is very likely that in this state, as nationally, many if not most children who are killed by abuse or neglect were unknown to child protective authorities before their deaths.

Even when children are identified as victims and they and their families receive services, healing their physical and emotional injuries is difficult. And some injuries can never be undone. For instance, early neglect can stunt brain development, and prenatal exposure to alcohol can cause mental retardation. For many children, treatment is too frequently limited in its duration and effectiveness.

As a child grows older, it becomes more difficult to undo damage and is more expensive to treat the consequences of abuse and neglect. Even more troublesome is the plight of tens of thousands of Illinois children who receive no treatment at all because they fall through the cracks and never come to the attention of child protective services. As long as these "lost" children remain unidentified, there will be few opportunities to repair the damage done to them or to protect communities from the risk that they might become future criminals. For these "lost" children, prevention is probably their only hope.<sup>38</sup>

Research shows there are rigorously tested solutions that can significantly reduce child abuse and neglect in high-risk families. Programs beginning as early as during pregnancy to help families develop parenting skills and change problem behaviors have proven effective in preventing child abuse and neglect. To protect vulnerable children—and all Illinoisans—these programs must be made available to all families who need them before abuse or neglect takes place.

The only nationwide home visiting program that has tracked children long enough to report on their later involvement in crime is the Nurse Family Partnership (NFP) program, so we focus on their results in this report. While NFP is serving 140 children a year in Kane County and is being expanded to other sites, the Healthy Families Illinois and the Parents Too Soon sites, together, serve more than 4,500 children, and Parents as Teachers and other home visiting programs such as Early Head Start serve an additional 11,000 Illinois children (See Appendix B).

## NURSE-FAMILY PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM SHOWS WHAT HOME VISITING SERVICES CAN ACCOMPLISH

Beginning during pregnancy, voluntary parent coaching for at-risk parents of infants and toddlers can dramatically reduce abuse and neglect. Who are those "at-risk" parents? While there are parents from all income levels and walks of life who abuse and neglect their children, some families face more challenges than others.

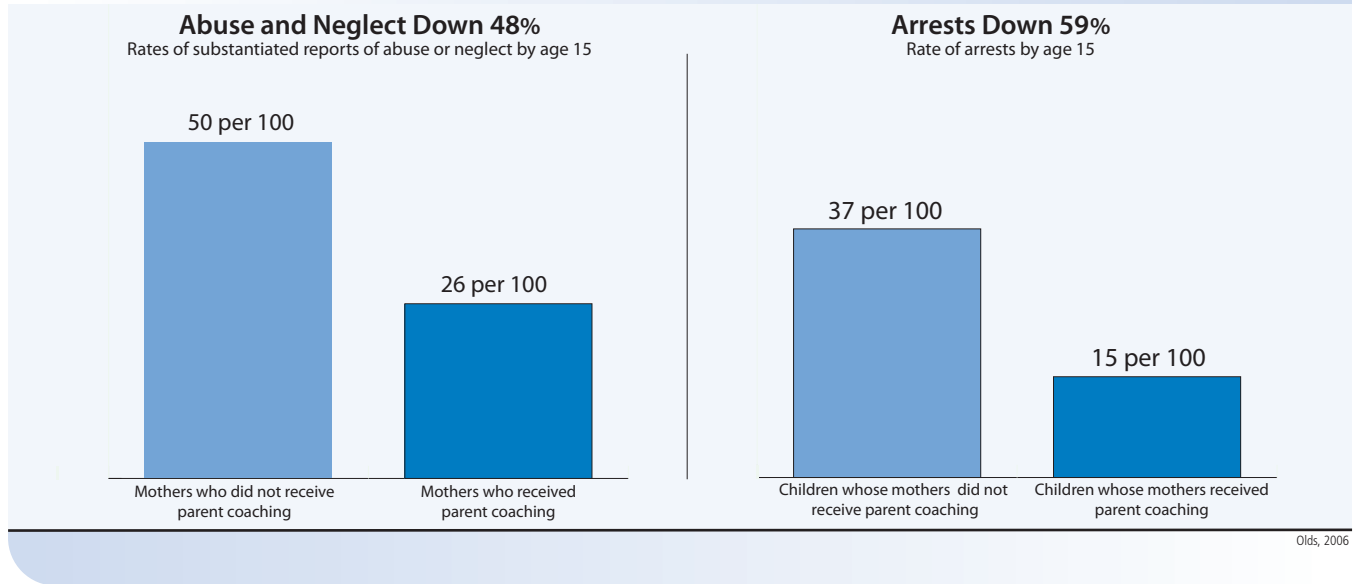
Nationally, almost half of the families referred to child protective services for abuse or neglect were receiving welfare at the time and more than half of all referred families had received assistance in the past.<sup>39</sup> In a study conducted in Illinois, 40 percent of the children placed into foster care came from families receiving welfare (while only 15 percent of all families in Illinois were on welfare at the time) and another 20 percent of children in foster care were from families that had recently received welfare.<sup>40</sup>

Failure to graduate from high school is also a risk factor. Compared to parents with a high school degree, those without a degree are almost five times more likely to be officially reported for abuse or neglect.<sup>41</sup> Multiple risk factors can have cumulative effects. Single mothers without a high school diploma are 10 times more likely to be officially reported for abusing or neglecting their children than women in two-parent families with more education.<sup>42</sup>

Groundbreaking research initially conducted in Elmira, N.Y. showed that parent coaching in the homes of new, at-risk, young parents can be extraordinarily effective in reducing child abuse and neglect when provided with enough quality and frequency. The Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP) randomly assigned half of a group of single, poor, first-time young mothers to receive visits by carefully trained nurses. The nurses provided coaching in parenting skills and other advice and support. Starting in 1978, the women in the program received an average of nine home visits during their pregnancy and 23 visits from birth to their child's second birthday. Rigorous research, originally published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, shows that children of mothers in the program had 48 percent fewer substantiated reports of abuse or neglect. Put another way: home visiting services can prevent nearly half of all cases of abuse or neglect of at-risk children.<sup>43</sup>

In addition, by the time the children reached age 15, mothers in the program had 61 percent fewer arrests than the moth-

## NURSE FAMILY PARTNERSHIP CUT ABUSE AND NEGLECT AND ARRESTS IN HALF AMONG AT-RISK KIDS SERVED



ers left out of the program, and their children had 59 percent fewer arrests than the kids left out.<sup>44</sup>

A replication study of NFP, also using a randomized controlled trial, began in 1990 in Memphis. The mothers and children served are still being followed. There is no data available yet on the children's arrest records, and the official abuse and neglect records are not adequate to directly measure whether the children were maltreated.<sup>45</sup> However, in the most recent follow-up study of NFP in Memphis, researchers found that the children not receiving NFP were four times more likely than the children in NFP to die by age 10 from any cause including complications from preterm deliveries, sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), and injuries. The one NFP death was due to chromosomal abnormality.<sup>46</sup>

In elementary school, the children participating in NFP whose mothers had low psychological resources for coping with their child outperformed the children of similarly challenged mothers not receiving NFP. The high-risk children receiving NFP had 10 percent better GPAs on average (2.68 vs. 2.44) and scored 26 percent better on math and reading achievement tests (44.89 vs. 35.72) than the high-risk children not receiving NFP.<sup>47</sup>

There were many other benefits as well. For example, the children in the Elmira study were brought before local courts as juveniles in need of supervision for incorrigible behavior 90 percent less often than the children not in the program.<sup>48</sup> The mothers receiving parent coaching in Elmira also averaged 21 percent fewer births 15 years after delivery of their first child, and one-third fewer months on welfare than the mothers not receiving coaching.<sup>49</sup>

Finally, another replication underway in Denver is also gen-

erating strong positive results for the children.<sup>50</sup>

**NFP in Illinois** — In Illinois, NFP operates a site in Kane County and has another program that serves both Jefferson and Marion counties. The Kane County NFP site has been in operation since 2001, when it began serving 100 families. It has since expanded and now has two teams of nurse home visitors working out of Elgin and Aurora. It has successfully served 539 pregnant women over the past few years and currently reaches 140 per year. The site has local data that, when compared with national data for NFP, shows it is doing well. For example, it has enrolled pregnant women and convinced them to initiate breast-feeding at a higher rate than the national average for NFP. It is also achieving crucial reductions in alcohol and tobacco use among the women served.<sup>51</sup>

The Jefferson/Marion county NFP site has not yet been in operation long enough to report data.<sup>52</sup>

**Healthy Families** — Healthy Families is a home visitation program that can begin before the child is born. Although earlier randomized controlled trials of Healthy Families America showed modest outcomes, a more recent randomized control trial of Healthy Families New York (HFNY) found that HFNY successfully increased health insurance coverage among the children in the program, and the rate of low birth weight births was 2.5 times higher for the control group not receiving HFNY (8.3%) than it was for the HFNY families (3.3%).<sup>53</sup> The evaluation also found that:

At year one, compared to mothers in the control group, mothers in the HFNY intervention group reported having engaged in significantly fewer acts of very serious physical abuse: hitting a child with her fist, kicking a child, slapping a

child on the face (.01 versus .08). At year two, HFNY parents reported having committed, on average, one-third fewer acts of serious physical abuse in the past year than the control group (.01 versus .04).<sup>54</sup>

**Parents Too Soon** — Parents Too Soon is another home visiting program operating throughout Illinois. It aims to provide weekly home visits and peer group meetings for new and expectant teen parents living in high risk communities.

**Sites and Coverage of Healthy Families and Parents Too Soon** — With funding from the Illinois Department of Human Services, Healthy Families operates by itself in 29 counties, serving nearly 3,000 children. It also combines with Parents Too Soon to operate joint programs in 12 other sites serving 960 children. By itself, Parents Too Soon operates in four counties serving 682 children. Together, the individual and combined programs serve a total of 38 Illinois counties and over 4,500 children. The Appendix outlines which counties are served and how many children are reached in each.

**Other Home Visiting Programs in Illinois** — Parents as Teachers (PAT) is the most widely available home visiting program in America. It serves families beginning before birth through the child's fifth birthday. A randomized controlled trial tested PAT for teen mothers when it was combined with case management, which involved referrals to help families needing psychological, health, nutrition, education or vocational services. The number of families investigated for child abuse or neglect dropped from 2.4 percent among the families not receiving the program to none among the families receiving the combined PAT and case management services, a statistically significant result.<sup>55</sup>

In another randomized controlled trial, PAT found that treatment for injuries — a possible sign of abuse — dropped among the children served compared to the children not served. For example, 13 percent of children *not* in the program had been treated for an injury in the year prior to the second year assessment compared to three percent of the children in PAT.<sup>56</sup>

When Steve Aos of the Washington State Institute for Public Policy looked at the costs and savings of PAT, he and his team concluded that PAT produced an average of over four thousand dollars in savings per child for a net savings, after subtracting the costs, approaching a thousand dollars for every child served.<sup>57</sup>

PAT operates in over 90 sites and does trainings at 179 locations throughout Illinois.<sup>58</sup>

Early Head Start is a federally funded child development program for young children that can begin with home visits before birth, but typically starts at four months and goes to age three. Early Head Start can be delivered either at a center, as home visits, or as a combination of center care and home visits. The

program was evaluated through a randomized controlled trial of over 3,000 families participating in 17 EHS programs across the country. Three-year-olds who had participated in Early Head Start, compared to their peers who did not, had higher levels of cognitive and language development, better attention to play, and lower levels of aggressive behavior. The programs that showed the strongest positive effects were those that implemented all of the federal program performance standards early and those that combined home-based and center-based services.<sup>59</sup>

In Illinois, Early Head Start serves almost 2,700 children each year.

## THE PREVENTION INITIATIVE FUNDING STREAM

The Early Childhood Education Block Grant (ECEBG) in the Illinois State Board of Education primarily serves three- and four-year-old children through the Preschool for All program.

ECEBG also supports programs serving younger infants and toddlers through a set-aside of 11% of the annual appropriation. Since 2005, all new investments in infants and toddlers made by the ECEBG have been directed to the Prevention Initiative.

Prevention Initiative funds go to parent-coaching programs that support at-risk families with children age zero to three. Models with a home visiting component currently eligible for Prevention Initiative funds include Parents as Teachers, Healthy Families, and Baby TALK. Prevention Initiative also funds programs using Early Head Start Standards. Currently, the Prevention Initiative programs serve over 8,000 children each year in Illinois.

There is strong demand around the state to expand these programs. In fiscal year '08, the Illinois State Board of Education received 145 applications for Prevention Initiative funding, totaling \$23 million. But available funding — based on the current set-aside level — totaled only \$2 million. Only six programs could be funded.

## THE REAL CHALLENGE IS FUNDING

The real challenge is not in finding programs that can deliver results, it is in getting the successful programs to more children. Currently less than 15 percent of the parents of zero to three-year-old Illinois children in poverty are enrolled in home visiting programs. Though some of those parents would choose not to participate, and some may not meet criteria for some of the programs because they already have multiple children and/or are not young mothers, it is clear that Illinois is not doing enough to prevent crime by helping young mothers become better parents. Much more local, state and national funding is needed to coach young at-risk families on how they and their children can avoid crime and lead more productive lives.

# Saving Money While Protecting Kids and Preventing Crime

**S**topping child abuse and neglect before children are hurt is not only the right thing to do, it is also the fiscally sound thing to do. In a study commissioned by the United States Justice Department, The Children’s Safety Network Economic Insurance Resource Center analyzed the direct and indirect costs of child abuse and neglect to taxpayers and all those individuals impacted by the consequences of abuse or neglect. It concluded that child abuse and neglect costs Americans \$83 billion a year,<sup>60</sup> and the same researchers estimated the total costs each year for Illinois are over \$4.6 billion.<sup>61</sup>

In the most recent accounting, Prevent Child Abuse America concluded that the true cost of abuse and neglect nationwide is more than \$100 billion.<sup>62</sup>

The direct taxpayer costs alone of paying for child abuse and neglect in Illinois are huge. According to the Urban Institute, in fiscal year 2004, the federal and state governments each paid about half of the costs, with the total cost to taxpayers reaching \$1.2 billion.<sup>63</sup> The direct child protective costs do not include later indirect costs borne by taxpayers. These include educational, welfare, medical and criminal justice costs when many of the abused or neglected children fail to become productive adults.

By waiting to pay for services until the problems cannot be avoided, Illinois taxpayers are paying huge sums to cover the costs of holding children back in school, providing special education services, paying for welfare, and especially paying for

arresting and imprisoning criminals. Not only is this an unbalanced investment strategy, it ignores the opportunity to act when the interventions are less expensive and more likely to succeed.

## HOME VISITING PROGRAMS CAN SAVE MONEY

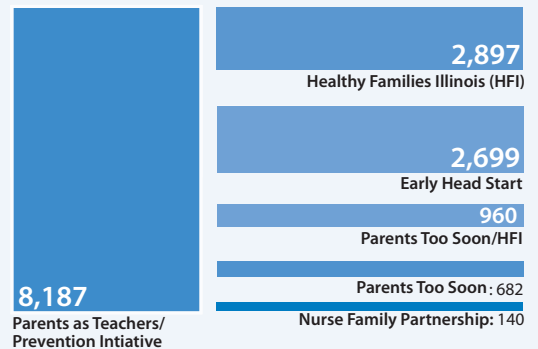
Analysts with the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis reported that NFP produced an average of five dollars in savings for every dollar invested and produced more than \$28,000 in net savings to taxpayers for every high-risk family enrolled in the program.<sup>64</sup> A new study by Steve Aos of Washington State found similar results: \$27,000 in net savings per family because of reductions in crime by the mothers and their children.<sup>65</sup> In fact, of the over 50 different adult and juvenile programs to reduce crime reported on by Aos in that particular study, the reduction in crimes among the at-risk teen mothers served by NFP was by far the largest crime reduction produced by any of the programs reviewed.<sup>66</sup>

With such potential savings, Illinois and the federal government should seize the opportunity to ensure that Illinois’ home visiting programs reach their full potential and are offered to all at-risk parents of infants and toddlers in the state.

## ONLY 1 IN 7 ILLINOIS CHILDREN ARE SERVED BY HOME VISITING PROGRAMS

### At-risk children not served by home visiting programs\*

94,062\*



\*This figure includes some families who would not accept an offer of voluntary home visits and some families with too many children or with mothers too old to qualify for some programs. However, when compared to current coverage (15% for all of Illinois) the need to double, triple or even quadruple current services is obvious. Healthy families Illinois, Parents Too Soon, and Healthy Families/Parents Too Soon data includes only families with children ages 0-3. Some of these programs also serve families with children ages 3-5.



## A Call to Action From the Front Lines of the Battle Against Crime

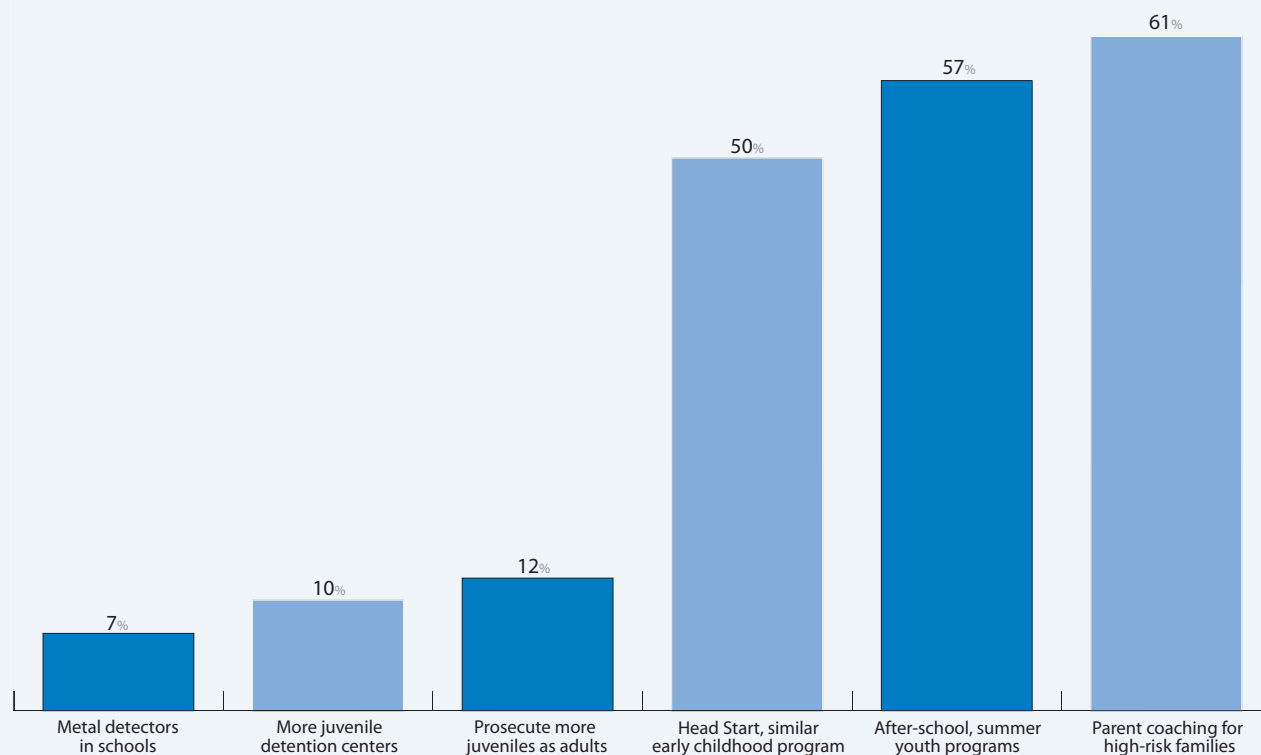
The over 200 police chiefs, sheriffs, state's attorneys, and law enforcement leaders who are members of **Fight Crime: Invest in Kids Illinois** and the over 3,500 members of **Fight Crime: Invest in Kids Illinois** throughout the United States are calling for greater investments to help children succeed in school, protect them from abuse and neglect, save taxpayers' dollars, and make all Illinoisans safer.

Research shows how to prevent child abuse and neglect before children are hurt and before those children can go on to hurt others. The research shows that high quality parent coaching services beginning before birth can help children succeed while preventing half of all cases of abuse or neglect of at-risk children. They can save children's lives now while helping to prevent more than 1,100 children a year in Illinois from growing up to be violent criminals. The programs will prevent murders and suicides in Illinois. All this can be accomplished

while saving the people of Illinois hundreds of millions of dollars each year.

Government's most fundamental responsibility is to protect its citizens. When one child a week is dying from abuse and neglect and a thousand more are growing up to be violent criminals each year as a result of abuse or neglect, federal, state and local governments clearly are not doing enough. Illinois' current home visiting efforts are a good first step, but they reach only one in seven children aged 0-3 who are living in poverty. Government must meet the challenge of providing adequate funding. Elected leaders at the state and federal level should invest now in the best research-driven programs that can help children succeed while eliminating half of all abuse and neglect in high-risk families.

### MORE ILLINOIS LAW ENFORCEMENT LEADERS CHOSE HOME VISITING AS THE BEST TOOL FOR CRIME PREVENTION



George Mason University, 2000

365 Illinois law enforcement leaders responded to the poll question "Please rate the following strategies on a scale of 1 ("Very valuable") to 5 ("Not at all valuable") on their value as a crime prevention tool. 61 percent of the leaders gave "Parent Coaching for high-risk families" a 1 rating.

## APPENDIX

## CHILDREN SERVED BY HOME

COUNTIES	EHS	HFI	PTS	HF/PTS	NFP	PI	TOT. HV	POVERTY	UNMET	SERVED
Adams	0	45	0	0	0	0	45	490	445	9%
Alexander	22	0	0	21	0	0	43	234	191	18%
Bond	0	55	0	0	0	0	55	129	74	42%
Boone	0	0	0	15	0	0	15	366	351	4%
Brown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	28	28	0%
Bureau	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	255	255	0%
Calhoun	0	0	0	0	0	68	68	27	-40	246%
Carroll	0	0	0	0	0	66	66	111	45	59%
Cass	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	148	148	0%
Champaign	93	65	72	0	0	75	305	1852	1547	16%
Christian	0	0	0	0	0	85	85	325	240	26%
Clark	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	108	108	0%
Clay	0	76	0	0	0	99	175	111	-64	158%
Clinton	41	0	0	0	0	0	41	159	118	26%
Coles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	354	354	0%
Cook	1,384	801	445	262	0	3,616	6,508	63,246	56,738	10%
Crawford	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	138	138	0%
Cumberland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	99	99	0%
DeKalb	0	47	0	0	0	0	47	630	583	7%
DeWitt	0	4	0	0	0	43	47	152	105	31%
Douglas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	174	174	0%
DuPage	40	195	0	0	0	151	386	3,308	2,922	12%
Edgar	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	181	181	0%
Edwards	12	0	0	0	0	0	12	62	50	19%
Effingham	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	286	286	0%
Fayette	0	65	0	0	0	0	65	235	170	28%
Ford	10	23	0	0	0	0	33	72	39	45%
Franklin	40	0	0	0	0	0	40	534	494	7%
Fulton	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	293	293	0%
Gallatin	12	0	0	0	0	0	12	129	117	9%
Greene	0	0	0	0	0	35	35	94	59	37%
Grundy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	148	148	0%
Hamilton	12	0	0	0	0	0	12	87	75	14%
Hancock	18	0	0	0	0	158	176	106	-69	166%
Hardin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	75	75	0%
Henderson	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	38	38	0%
Henry	0	69	0	0	0	0	69	315	246	22%
Iroquois	11	60	0	0	0	0	71	220	149	49.2
Jackson	0	97	0	0	0	285	382	832	450	46%
Jasper	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	75	75	0%
Jefferson	0	0	0	35	0	0	35	323	288	11%

# VISITING PROGRAMS IN ILLINOIS

COUNTIES	EHS	HFI	PTS	HF/PTS	NFP	PI	TOT. HV	POVERTY	over for key	
									UNMET	SERVED
Jersey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	122	122	0%
Jo Daviess	0	0	0	0	0	83	83	118	35	70%
Johnson	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	97	97	0%
Kane	90	160	0	53	140	194	637	4,641	4,004	14%
Kankakee	0	0	0	97	0	160	257	949	692	27%
Kendall	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Knox	0	0	0	0	0	93	93	538	445	17%
Lake	128	38	0	0	0	655	821	4,265	3,444	19%
LaSalle	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,095	1,095	0%
Lawrence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	160	160	0%
Lee	0	0	0	0	0	15	15	168	153	9%
Livingston	0	83	0	0	0	13	96	312	216	31%
Logan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	168	168	0%
Macon	0	52	0	0	0	222	274	1,503	1,229	18%
Macoupin	0	72	0	0	0	20	92	385	293	24%
Madison	115	85	0	0	0	110	310	1,563	1,253	20%
Marion	0	0	0	55	0	0	55	487	432	11%
Marshall	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	61	61	0%
Mason	0	0	0	0	0	17	17	161	144	11%
Massac	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	155	155	0%
McDonough	12	0	0	0	0	0	12	347	335	3%
McHenry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,166	1,166	0%
McLean	0	145	0	0	0	0	145	845	700	17%
Menard	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	78	78	0%
Mercer	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	81	81	0%
Monroe	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	85	85	0%
Montgomery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	404	404	0%
Morgan	0	0	0	0	0	108	108	259	151	42%
Moultrie	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	86	86	0%
Ogle	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	297	297	0%
Peoria	75	0	0	109	0	230	414	2,150	1,736	19%
Perry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	235	235	0%
Piatt	0	5	0	0	0	0	5	52	47	10%
Pike	22	0	0	0	0	0	22	113	91	19%
Pope	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	31	31	0%
Pulaski	40	0	0	15	0	127	182	162	-20	112%
Putnam	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	21	21	0%
Randolph	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	324	324	0%
Richland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	189	189	0%
Rock Island	0	130	0	0	0	0	130	2,415	2,285	5%
Saline	32	0	0	0	0	0	32	291	259	11%

COUNTIES	EHS	HFI	PTS	HF/PTS	NFP	PI	TOT. HV	POVERTY	UNMET	SERVED
Saline	32	0	0	0	0	0	32	291	259	11%
Sangamon	96	58	0	87	0	95	336	2074	1738	16%
Schuyler	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	27	27	0%
Scott	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	38	38	0%
Shelby	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	170	170	0%
St. Clair	136	37	108	0	0	423	704	3017	2313	23%
Stark	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	37	37	0%
Stephenson	0	108	0	0	0	0	108	453	345	24%
Tazewell	0	0	0	20	0	39	59	1446	1387	4%
Union	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	252	252	0%
Vermilion	49	90	57	0	0	178	374	1639	1265	23%
Wabash	24	0	0	0	0	0	24	163	139	15%
Warren	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	126	126	0%
Washington	13	0	0	0	0	0	13	59	46	22%
Wayne	24	0	0	0	0	43	67	181	114	37%
White	19	0	0	0	0	0	19	183	164	10%
Whiteside	0	66	0	0	0	28	94	542	448	17%
Will	84	159	0	0	0	86	329	2354	2025	14%
Williamson	45	0	0	0	0	176	221	808	587	27%
Winnebago	0	0	0	191	0	290	481	3555	3074	14%
Woodford	0	7	0	0	0	101	108	127	19	85%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2,699</b>	<b>2,897</b>	<b>682</b>	<b>960</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>8,187</b>	<b>15,565</b>	<b>110,425</b>	<b>94,860</b>	<b>14%</b>

Illinois Early Childhood Asset Map <http://iecom.crc.uiuc.edu/index.html>

\*These figures include some families who would not accept an offer of voluntary home visits and some families with too many children or with mothers too old to qualify for some programs. However, when compared to current coverage (15% for all of Illinois) the need to double, triple or even quadruple current services is obvious.

#### KEY

<b>EHS</b>	Early Head Start
<b>HFI*</b>	Healthy Families Illinois
<b>PTS*</b>	Parents Too Soon
<b>HF/PTS*</b>	Programs combining HF and PTS.
<b>PI</b>	Prevention Institute
<b>NFP</b>	Nurse Family Partnership
<b>VISITING</b>	Total number of children age 0-3 in home visiting programs.
<b>POVERTY</b>	Children age 0-3 in families below 100% of the 2005 Federal Poverty Level.
<b>UNMET</b>	Total unmet need.
<b>SERVED</b>	Percentage of at-risk children served.

\*Healthy Families Illinois, Parents Too Soon, and Healthy Families/Parents Too Soon data includes only families with children ages 0-3. Some of these programs also serve families with children ages 3-5.

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- <sup>10</sup> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children, Youth, and Families, Children's Bureau. (2007). *Child maltreatment 2005*. Retrieved December 18, 2007 from [http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/pubs/cm05/tab1e3\\_6.htm](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/pubs/cm05/tab1e3_6.htm)
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- <sup>26</sup> One of these researchers, Dr. Lonnie Athens, interviewed a large number of violent criminals and concluded that children who became seriously violent criminals were almost always trained to be violent by violent individuals in their lives. For a profile on Athens, see: Rhodes, R. (1999). *Why they kill*. New York: Randomhouse. See the rest of the text for additional examples.
- <sup>27</sup> Mitchell, H., & Aamodt, M.G. (2005). The incidence of child abuse in serial killers. *Journal of Police and Criminal Psychology*, 20(1), 40-47; Pokel, C.A. (2000). *A critical analysis of research related to the criminal mind of serial killers*. Menomonee, WI: The Graduate University of Wisconsin-Stout.
- <sup>28</sup> Lewis, D. O., Pincus, J. H., Bard, B., Richardson, E., Pritchep, L. S., Feldman, M., & Yeager, C. (1986). Psychiatric, neurological, and psycho-educational characteristics of 15 death row inmates in the United States. *American Journal of Psychiatry*, 143, 838-845; Lewis, D. O., Pincus, J. H., Bard, B., Richardson, E., Pritchep, L. S., Feldman, M., Yeager, C. (1988). Neuropsychiatric, psychoeducational and family characteristics of 14 juveniles condemned to death in the United States. *American Journal of Psychiatry*, 145(5), 585-589. Cited in Rhodes, R. (1999). *Why they kill*. New York: Randomhouse.
- <sup>29</sup> Lewis, D. O., Pincus, J. H., Bard, B., Richardson, E., Pritchep, L. S., Feldman, M., Yeager, C. (1988). Neuropsychiatric, psychoeducational and family characteristics of 14 juveniles condemned to death in the United States. *American Journal of Psychiatry*, 145(5), 585-589. Cited in Rhodes, R. (1999). *Why they kill*. New York: Randomhouse.
- <sup>30</sup> Douglas, J., & Olshaker, M. (1999). *The anatomy of motive*. New York: Scribner.
- <sup>31</sup> Widom, C. S. (2000). *Childhood victimization: Early adversity, later psychopathology*. Retrieved at the National Criminal Justice Reference Service Web site from [www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/jr000242b.pdf](http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/jr000242b.pdf)
- <sup>32</sup> Widom, C. S. (2000). *Childhood victimization: Early adversity, later psychopathology*. Retrieved at the National Criminal Justice Reference Service Web site from [www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/jr000242b.pdf](http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/jr000242b.pdf)
- <sup>33</sup> National Institute of Mental Health. (2003). *Suicide facts*. Retrieved from <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/research/suifact.cfm>. For every successful suicide, there are an estimated 8 to 25 attempts. It is unknown, however, what proportion of successful suicides there are among the population of abused and neglected individuals who attempt suicide.
- <sup>34</sup> Egeland, B., Jacobvitz, D., & Sroufe, A. (1998). Breaking the cycle of abuse. *Child Development*, 59, 1080-1088. Cited in Ertem, I., Leventhal, J., & Dobbs, S. (2000). Intergenerational continuity of child physical abuse: How good is the evidence? *The Lancet*, 356, 814-819. Ertem, et al. systematically reviewed and ranked for rigor a number of studies that attempted to trace the intergenerational continuity of child abuse. They discovered that current studies show a wide range of results.
- <sup>35</sup> Casillas, O., & Ataiyero, K.T. (2007). South side woman, age 24 and mother of 8, held in son's fatal beating. *Chicago Tribune*. Retrieved on December 31, 2007 from [http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/chi-boy-dead\\_webdec18\\_1,621155.story](http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/chi-boy-dead_webdec18_1,621155.story); Herman, E., & Sweeney, A. (2007). Mom accused of killing son had 'meltdown': lawyer. *Chicago Sun-Times*. Retrieved on December 31, 2007 from <http://www.suntimes.com/news/metro/701564,CST-NWS-beat18.article>
- <sup>36</sup> We do not know exactly what percentage of children were known to DCFs, but nationally, 11.7 percent were "fatality victims whose families received preservation services in the past 5 years."



Further, 2.7 percent of "fatality victims who had been reunited with their families in the past 5 years" were later killed. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children, Youth, and Families, Children's Bureau. (2007). *Child maltreatment 2005*. Retrieved December 31, 2007

<sup>37</sup> Illinois reports that none of the children killed by abuse or neglect had received preservation services or returned from foster care in 2005, but this appears to be a case of unreported data, rather than no cases where the families of children who died had received services. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children, Youth, and Families, Children's Bureau. (2007). *Child maltreatment 2005*. Retrieved December 18, 2007

<sup>38</sup> Sedlak, A. J., & Broadhurst, D. D. (1996). *Executive summary of the third national incidence study of child abuse and neglect*. Retrieved at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Website from <http://www.caib.com/nccanch/pubs/statinfo/nis3.cfm#national>

<sup>39</sup> Paxson, C., & Waldfogel, J. (1999). *Work, welfare, and child maltreatment*. Washington, D.C.: National Bureau of Economic Research.

<sup>40</sup> Shook, K. (1998). Assessing the consequences of welfare reform for child welfare. Poverty Research News: *The Newsletter of the Northwestern University/ University of Chicago Joint Center for Poverty Research*, 2(2), 8-12. Cited in Paxson, C., & Waldfogel, J. (1999). *Work, welfare, and child maltreatment*. Washington, DC: National Bureau of Economic Research.

<sup>41</sup> Murphey, D. A., & Braner, M. (2000). Linking child maltreatment retrospectively to birth and home visit records: An initial examination. *Child Welfare*, 79(6), 711-728.

<sup>42</sup> Murphey, D. A., & Braner, M. (2000). Linking child maltreatment retrospectively to birth and home visit records: An initial examination. *Child Welfare*, 79(6), 711-728.

<sup>43</sup> The original findings were presented in Olds, D. L. (1998). Long-term effects of nurse home visitation on children's criminal and anti-social behavior: 15-year follow-up of a randomized controlled trial. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 280(14), 1238-1244. David Olds, the principal author, updated some of those findings using alternative statistical analysis. Those results are presented on his web site under research findings and an interview from <http://www.nursefamilypartnership.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=home>

<sup>44</sup> For the original outcomes on the mothers in the program, see: Olds, D. L. (1997). Long-term effects of nurse home visitation on maternal life course and child abuse and neglect. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 278(8), 637-643. For outcomes on the children in the program, see: Olds, D. L. (1998). Long-term effects of nurse home visitation on children's criminal and anti-social behavior: 15-year follow-up of a randomized controlled trial. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 280(14), 1238-1244. David Olds, the principal author, updated some of those findings using alternative statistical analysis. Those results are presented on his web site under research findings and an interview from <http://www.nursefamilypartnership.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=home>

<sup>45</sup> The rate of state-verified cases of child abuse and neglect among low-income first-born children in Memphis was too low to serve as a reliable outcome in this setting. Olds, D. L., Henderson, C., & Eckenrode, J. (2002). Preventing child abuse and neglect with prenatal and infancy home visiting by nurses. In K. Browne, H. Hanks, P. Stratton, & C. Hamilton (Eds.), *Early prediction and prevention of*

*child abuse: A handbook*. London: John Wiley & Sons.

<sup>46</sup> Olds, D.L., Kitzman, H., Hanks C., Henderson, C.R., Holmberg, J., Tutt, R.A. et al. (2007). Effects of Nurse Home Visiting on maternal and child functioning: Age-9 follow-up of a randomized trial. *Pediatrics*, 120(4), 832-846. There were 498 children in the control group. Of the 10 children in that group who died, 3 died from complications of pre-term delivery, 3 from SIDS, 3 from injuries and one from intestinal infections. One of the 222 children in NFP died from chromosomal abnormalities.

<sup>47</sup> Olds, D.L., Kitzman, H., Hanks C., Henderson, C.R., Holmberg, J., Tutt, R.A. et al. (2007). Effects of Nurse Home Visiting on maternal and child functioning: Age-9 follow-up of a randomized trial. *Pediatrics*, 120(4), 832-846. The GPA figures are for combined grades in reading and math.

<sup>48</sup> Olds, D. L. (1998). Long-term effects of nurse home visitation on children's criminal and anti-social behavior: 15-year follow-up of a randomized controlled trial. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 280(14), 1238-1244. David Olds, the principal author, updated some of those findings using alternative statistical analysis. Those results are presented on his web site under research findings and an interview from <http://www.nursefamilypartnership.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=home>

<sup>49</sup> Olds, D. L. Eckenrode, J., Henderson, C.R., Kitzman, H., Powers, J., Cole, R., Sidora, K., Morris, P., Pettitt, L.M., Luckey, D. (1997). Long-term effects of nurse home visitation on maternal life course and child abuse and neglect. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 278(8), 637-643.

<sup>50</sup> Olds, D. L., Robinson, J., Pettitt, L., Luckey, D. W., Holmberg, J., Ng, R. K., Isacks, K., Sheff K., Henderson Jr. C.R. (2004). Effects of home visits by paraprofessionals and by nurses: Age 4 follow-up results of a randomized trial. *Pediatrics*, 114(6), 1560-1568. Retrieved on December 2, 2005 from [www.pediatrics.org](http://www.pediatrics.org)

<sup>51</sup> Nurse Family Partnership. (2007). *Kane county, Illinois*. Denver, CO; Nurse-Family Partnership.

<sup>52</sup> Erika Bantz, Program Developer, Midwest Region, NFP. (2008). *Personal Communication*.

<sup>53</sup> Mitchell-Herzfeld, S., Izzo, C., Greene, R., Lee, E., Lowenfels, A. (2005). *Evaluation of healthy families New York (HFNY): First year program impacts, Healthy Families*. New York: New York State Office of Children and Family Services, Center for Human Services Research.

<sup>54</sup> DuMont, K., Mitchell-Herzfeld, S., Greene, R., Lee, E., Lowenfels, A., & Rodriguez, M. (2006) *Healthy Families New York (HFNY) randomized trial: Impacts on parenting after the first two years*. New York State Office of Children and Family Services. Retrieved from the internet on May 2, 2007 at [http://cyfernet.ces.ncsu.edu/cyfdb\\_abstracts/9742.php](http://cyfernet.ces.ncsu.edu/cyfdb_abstracts/9742.php)

<sup>55</sup> Wagner, M.M. & Clayton, S.L., (Spring/Summer 1999). The Parents as Teachers program: Results from two demonstrations. *The Future of Children*, 9(1), 91-115.

<sup>56</sup> Wagner, M., Iida, E., & Spiker, D. (2001). *The multisite evaluation of the Parents as Teachers home visiting program: Three-year findings from one community*. Menlo Park, CA. SRI International.

<sup>57</sup> Washington State Institute for Public Policy. (2004). *Benefits and costs of prevention and early intervention programs for youth*. Retrieved on May 5, 2007 from [www.wsipp.wa.gov/rptfiles/04-07-3901.pdf](http://www.wsipp.wa.gov/rptfiles/04-07-3901.pdf)

<sup>58</sup> Parents as Teachers. (2008). *Program search by state*. Retrieved on January 16, 2008 from <http://www.parentsasteach>

[ers.org/site/apps/kb/cs/contactsearch.asp?c=ekIRLcMZJx&bb=1595089](http://ers.org/site/apps/kb/cs/contactsearch.asp?c=ekIRLcMZJx&bb=1595089)

<sup>59</sup> Love, J.M., Kisker, E.E., Ross, C., Constantine, J., Boller, K., Chazan-Cohen, R., Brady-Smith, C., Fuligni, A.S., Raikes, H., Brooks-Gunn, J., Tarullo, L.B., Schochet, P.Z., Paulsell, D., & Vogel, C. (2005). The effectiveness of Early Head Start for 3-year-old children and their parents: Lessons for policy and programs. *Developmental Psychology*, 41, 885-901.

<sup>60</sup> Miller, T., Cohen, M., & Weirsem, B. (1998). *Cost of child abuse and neglect, 1996*. Landover, MD: Children's Safety Network Economics and Insurance Resource Center, National Public Services Research Institute. The figure includes an accounting for lost quality of life.

<sup>61</sup> Children's Safety Network. (2008). *Costs of child abuse and neglect in Illinois*. Calverton, MD: Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation.

<sup>62</sup> Wang, C., & Holton, J. (2007). *Total estimated cost of child abuse and neglect in the United States*. Retrieved on January 28, 2008 from [http://member.preventchildabuse.org/site/DocServer/cost\\_analysis.pdf?docID=144](http://member.preventchildabuse.org/site/DocServer/cost_analysis.pdf?docID=144)

<sup>63</sup> The exact figure is \$1,243,211,566. The federal figure is \$680,009,045, state figure is \$563,202,521. Scarcella, C., Bess, R., Zielewski, E., Geen, R. (2006). *The Cost of Protecting Vulnerable Children V: Assessing the New Federalism*. The Urban Institute. Retrieved on January 3, 2008 from [http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/311314\\_vulnerable\\_children.pdf](http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/311314_vulnerable_children.pdf)

<sup>64</sup> Burr, J., Grunewald, R. (2006). *Lessons learned: A review of early childhood development studies, draft*. Retrieved on November 22, 2006 from <http://www.minneapolisfed.org/research/studies/earlychild/index.cfm>.

Grunewald confirmed that the figures on NFP's cost benefit results will not change when they finalize this report. The current analysis is based on the original cost benefit study by RAND: Karoly, L.A., Greenwood, P.W., Everingham, S.S., Houbé, J., Kilburn, M.R., Rydell, C.P., Sanders, M., & Chiesa, J. (1998). *Investing in our children: What we know and don't know about the costs and benefits of early childhood interventions*. Retrieved on November 22, 2006 from <http://www.rand.org/publications/MR/MR898/>

<sup>65</sup> These savings included savings to crime victims and taxpayers. In Exhibit 4 of the report, AOS calculates that NFP results in a 56 percent reduction in crime for the mothers in the program. AOS, S, Miller, M., Drake, E. (2006). *Evidence-Based Public Policy Options To Reduce Future Prison Construction, Criminal Justice Costs, And Crime Rates*. Retrieved on January 18, 2008 from <http://www.wsipp.wa.gov/rptfiles/06-10-1201.pdf>

<sup>66</sup> NFP reduced crime by the mothers in the program by 56 percent. Of the over 50 programs NFP is compared to, the next highest percentage reduction in crime, using AOS's formula, is 22 percent. AOS, S, Miller, M., Drake, E. (2006). *Evidence-Based Public Policy Options To Reduce Future Prison Construction, Criminal Justice Costs, And Crime Rates*. Retrieved on January 18, 2008 from <http://www.wsipp.wa.gov/rptfiles/06-10-1201.pdf>

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