



**CABINET FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES
DEPARTMENT FOR COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES
COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE
COA Accredited Agency**

Steven L. Beshear
Governor

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Janie Miller
Secretary

October 13, 2009

Dr. Blake Jones
University of Kentucky
College of Social Work
1 Quality Street, 7th floor, Suite A
Lexington, Kentucky 40507

Dear Blake and members of the Citizen Review Panels:

Thank you for the comprehensive review completed on the issue of recidivism. Your analysis of this issue and your other work projects were extremely interesting. The report has been distributed and reviewed by staff throughout the Cabinet. Attached you will find our responses regarding these recommendations.

I appreciate the commitment of the Citizen Review Panel members in partnering with DCBS to work towards the goal of providing a safe and stable environment for the children and families of the Commonwealth. The Citizen Review Panel continues to provide DCBS with valuable insight into areas such as service delivery, collaboration, and advocacy that assist us in assessing the effectiveness of our service delivery system.

The Federal Child and Family Services Review statewide assessment was completed in March 2008. During June 16 – 20, 2008, the department participated in the required on-site review. Kentucky received their final report on April 13, 2009. On June 29, 2009 Kentucky submitted its five year child and family services plan and submitted its performance improvement plan on CFSR outcomes on July 10, 2009. The Citizen Review Panel has been incorporated into the plan under Theme 3 – Enhanced Community Collaboration. Your analysis on recidivism this past year will be invaluable as the Cabinet evaluates policies and practices relating to child maltreatment, in-home services and out-of-home care.

We appreciate your commitment to the work of the Citizen Review Panel and we look forward to continuing to work in partnership with each of you on behalf of the children and families of Kentucky.

Sincerely,

Patricia R. Wilson
Commissioner





**CABINET FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES
DEPARTMENT FOR COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES
Division of Protection and Permanency
Child Safety Branch
COA Accredited Agency**

Steven L. Beshear
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Janie Miller
Secretary

October 8, 2009

Dr. Blake Jones
University of Kentucky
College of Social Work
1 Quality Street, Suite 700
Lexington, Kentucky 40507

Dear Dr. Jones and Citizen Review Panel Members;

It is always a pleasure to receive the annual report from the Citizen Review Panel members. The issues studied by the panels always reflect a passion for Kentucky families and a commitment to Department for Community Based Services staffs.

Your tireless pursuit of quality programs and service provision is appreciated and valued. The responsibility of the cabinet to respond to the recommendations is an opportunity to share the good work being accomplished and a challenge to consider policy and program revisions which may enhance services.

The fiscal crisis makes the collaborative effort among agencies, service providers, consumers and other interested parties even more important. The reorganization of the panels will present some unique challenges and opportunities and I look forward to this next year.

The work accomplished by yourself and panel members is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Gayle".

Gayle L. Yocum, CSW, MSW
Internal Policy Analyst

