



Riverside County Department of Public Social Services Neighborhood Fact Sheet 2009



Did You Know...

Focus: Each time a child is transferred to a new school district the child or teen can lose academic credits equal to 6 months of instruction time.

Focus: Evidence shows that children who do not read by the 3rd grade often fail to catch up and are more likely to drop out of school, take drugs, or go to prison.*

Solution: In 2008, DPSS placed 54% of children removed from abusive homes back into safer homes in their own community.

Solution: Strengthen families thru participation in Head Start and other preschool programs. Local community resources such as: school districts and libraries can help children and their families enjoy reading.

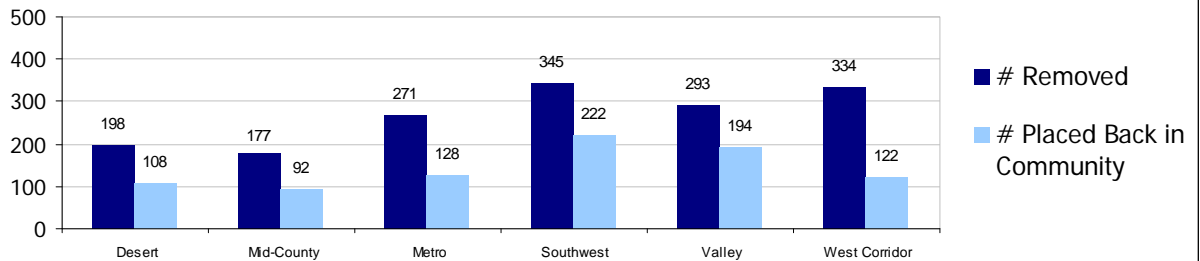


In Your Neighborhood

Three young children were removed from a single mother with mental health concerns. The mother was not taking her prescribed medication. All three children have some type of medical and or developmental diagnosis. The children were placed with their maternal grandmother who allowed them to see their mother weekly. The disruption to the children was minimal, and they were able to stay with a close relative and go to their same schools.



In 2008 Children's Services Division removed over 1,600 Children from Abusive Homes



In total, 1618 children were removed and 866 were placed with close relatives and foster homes in their own communities.

Family to Family 4 Core Strategies

Team Decision Making Meetings: Where the family, community, and social worker decide on a safe place for the child to live.

Self Evaluation: Using all available information to guide and improve how we serve families and ensure safety and permanency for children.

Recruitment, Development, & Support: Support for our caregivers within their own community. Increase the number of adoptive and foster homes within our community. Find, train, and support families in our community who can provide safe homes for children and reaching out to the community to strengthen families.

Building Community Partnerships: Collaborate with traditional and non-traditional community partners to create an environment that supports family stability. Connecting families to neighborhood based resources strengthens families and accelerates reunification.

1-800-442-4918

Child Abuse Report Hotline.

Children need their community: Safety is the responsibility of the family, the community and DPSS.

1-800-665-KIDS

Become a Foster or Adoptive Parent (Resource Family)
Every child deserves a safe and stable environment that nurtures personal growth and development.

Did you know that you can make a difference?



Be a CASA volunteer (Court Appointed Special Advocate): (951) 358-4343 or (760) 863-7424



Become a mentor: 1-800-665-KIDS (5437)

