

**Minutes**  
**Senate Committee on Children and Youth and the House Committee on**  
**Aging, Children and Youth, Legislative and Military Affairs**  
**Meeting Jointly**  
**Wednesday, September 14, 2016**

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The Senate Committee on Children and Youth and the House Committee on Aging, Children and Youth, Legislative and Military Affairs met jointly on Wednesday, September 14, 2016, at 10:00 a.m., at the State Capitol Building, Room 171, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Committee members present: **Senators** Stephanie Flowers, Chair; Missy Irving. **Representatives** Charlene Fite, Vice Chair; Mary Broadaway, Justin T. Harris, David Meeks, Sue Scott, Marcus Richmond, Laurie Rushing, Brandt Smith, DeAnn Vaught and Dave Wallace.

Non-committee members present: **Representatives** Scott Baltz, Kenneth B. Ferguson and Jack Ladyman.

Senator Flowers called the meeting to order.

**Consideration to Approve Minutes of August 14, 2016** [Exhibit B]

**Representative Scott made a motion to approve August 14, 2016 meeting minutes; Representative Broadaway seconded the motion and without objection the minutes were approved.**

**Department of Human Services, Division of Children and Family Services (DCFS), Summary of Family Preservation Services Report for State Fiscal Year 2016** [Exhibit D]

Senator Flowers recognized **Ms. Misha Martin, Director, DCFS**. She provided a summary of the “Family Preservation Services Report for State Fiscal Year 2016”. This report addresses a mandate that expanded the definition of “family preservation services” to include services to children and families that are designed to help “at risk” families and families in crisis. (*See Exhibit D for the full summary*)

Senator Flowers recognized Representative Fite, to chair the remainder of the meeting.

**Annual Report on Child Safety Centers** [Exhibit E]

Representative Fite recognized **Max Snowden, Executive Director, Arkansas Commission on Child Abuse Rape, and Domestic Violence**. He presented a brief summary of the report on “Arkansas Child Safety Centers”. This report provides insight on Child Safety Centers across the state of Arkansas. These centers are not-for-profit facilities that provide a location and/or access to forensic interviews, specialized medical examinations, child and family advocacy and trauma-focused mental health services during the course of a child maltreatment investigation. Along with the report, Mr. Snowden provided statistics for the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter (July-September 2015). The quarterly report provided information on the number of children seen in the centers, the number of interviews conducted and the number of medical examination conducted on site and off site, etc. There are currently fourteen centers around the state and four satellite centers. A new center is set to open soon in Eldorado, Arkansas. (*See Exhibit E for the full report*)

**Arkansas State Police, Crimes Against Children Division (CACD), Oversight Report, April 2016  
– June 2016** [Exhibit F]

Representative Fite recognized **Major Ron Stayton, CACD**. He provided a summary of the report noting Child Abuse Hotline activity for this period with 16,535 calls being received and 8,144 reports being accepted. More detailed information requested by the committee has been included in the report. *(See Exhibit F for the full report)*

**Other Business**

The next meeting of the committees is scheduled for Thursday, October 27, 2016 at 1:00 p.m.

**Adjournment**

With no further business the meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.