Differential Response

Pathways to Strengthening & Supporting Families
Womazetta Jones, Project Director
An alternative means of responding to allegations of child maltreatment.

Approximately 19 states are using a statewide DR system or have implemented DR within some counties.
Criteria For DR In Illinois

- Names and current address of the family are known;
- Alleged offenders are the parents, legal guardian, or responsible relative;
- No prior indicated reports of abuse and/or neglect or;
- Prior indicated reports have been expunged;
- No pending investigations;
- Alleged victim(s) or other siblings or household members are not currently in the care or custody of DCFS or wards of the court;
- Protective custody has not been taken or required in the current or any previous case;
- Allegations include, individuality or combination

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inadequate Food</th>
<th>Inadequate Shelter</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Inadequate Clothing</td>
<td>Inadequate Supervision</td>
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<tr>
<td>Environmental Neglect</td>
<td>Medical Neglect</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mental &amp; Emotional Impairment</td>
<td>Risk of Harm Due to Neglect</td>
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</tbody>
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Staffing

Public Sector: DR Specialist (DCFS)- Assess Safety
• Memorandum Of Understanding with AFSCME
• 30 DR Specialists
• 6 Supervisors

Private Sector: Strengthening and Supporting Family (SSF) Worker- Change Agent
• 13 Private Agencies with DR Contracts
• 13 SSF Supervisors
• 40 SSF Workers
• Caseload Ratio 12:1
Initial Visit - Paired Team

Evidence base practices
- Six Protective Factors
- Recovery Coach Model
- Home Visiting Model

Not a referral and linkage program

Short term and intensive

Worker is the service
Training

Overview Training
- History of DR
- Engagement
- Ecomap/Genogram
- Sexual harassment
- Early childhood intervention
- Domestic violence
- Procedures & Instruments
- Developmental disabilities
- Advocacy
- Burgos
- Conflict Resolution
- Child and family meetings
- Program Evaluation
How are we helping to strengthen and support families

Addressing the Needs identified by the Family

- Listening
- Mentoring
- Nutrition
- Cash Assistance
- Parent Café
- Partnering With Parent (PWP)

- Engagement
- Counseling
- Transportation
- Homemaker
- Advocacy
- Budgeting

AND MORE
Statistical Data
November 1, 2010- March 31, 2012

- Almost 3000 Case Have Been Randomized to DR
- Less then 300 Families Have Declined Services
- Approximately 550 Cases Have Redirected to Investigations
  - Did not fit the criteria for DR
  - Very few were re-directed due to safety concerns
What’s Next

Service Families

Randomized Control Trial Concludes

Internal Review and Reflection

QIC-DR CFRC Evaluation

FY 2013

QIC-DR Replication Manual