

## CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT RECEIVES DELAWARE QUALITY AWARD OF MERIT

**G**overnor Ruth Ann Minner joined Accolade Alliance, LLC in awarding the Delaware Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families as recipient of the 2003 Delaware Quality Award of Merit. The Department received previous quality awards for Commitment in 2001 and Merit in 2002.

"Our quality awards do not mean we are standing still but rather we are working harder than ever to make life better for children and families in the state of Delaware," said Cabinet Secretary Cari DeSantis. "These awards demonstrate our Department's distinction in leadership, strategic planning, customer and market focus, measurement analysis and knowledge management, human resources focus, process management and business results. These qualities are critical to our achieving and maintaining excellence. Since we are in the business of caring, we must do the 'business' part in order to do the caring. This latest recognition proves that our Department is a model of excellence and that we are more than qualified to serve one of Delaware's most vulnerable populations and greatest asset — our children."



Governor Ruth Ann Minner (third from right), Cabinet Secretary Cari DeSantis (second from right) and members of the Delaware Children's Department are shown with the Delaware Quality Award of Merit.

Secretary DeSantis acknowledges that although the Department has made great strides in improving services, it still has a "long way to go to truly meet the needs of 21st century children."

"Over the last three years, the Delaware Quality Award process has helped us move in the right direction," she said adding that the award criteria has "allowed us to identify our strengths and opportunities for improvement and has given us a road map for continuous service enhancement."

The Delaware Quality Award, established in 1992, is presented in honor of W.L. Gore by Accolade Alliance LLC, a subsidiary of Junior Achievement of Delaware, Inc. The award recognizes Delaware organizations that have implemented quality initiatives resulting in improved customer satisfaction and increased profitability (or efficiency) through excellence in services, support, research, and production.

## CENTER PROVIDES COMMUNITY ALTERNATIVE TO YOUTH DETENTION

**T**he Delaware Children's Department is giving Delaware another first — the First Chance Evening Reporting Center will provide a supervised environment for less serious juvenile offenders. The center will be operated for the Division of Youth Rehabilitative Services by A Friend of the Family Inc. with funding from the Annie E. Casey Foundation and the Criminal Justice Council.



Friend of the Family Administrator Dr. Kim Allen (second from left) shows the dining area to senior staff from the Division of Youth Rehabilitative Services during a tour around the center.

The Center located at 34 Parkway Circle, New Castle will serve 15 teens on any given day. Homework assistance, structured activities and a nutritious meal will be provided to participants. Any youth in New Castle County who meet the criteria can participate. Transportation will be provided to and from the program for youth living in the City of Wilmington.

A Friend of the Family Inc. (AFOF) was established in 1999 by Dr. Kim and Mr. William Allen, as an educational consulting firm, providing training services to families, school districts and business corporations. In addition, AFOF currently operates three alternative educational programs for at-risk youth in New Castle County.

The Evening Reporting Center is designed to produce more positive results for youth who might otherwise end up in detention facilities. It is just one of the improvements to the Department's continuum of services that will result from the partnership with the Annie E. Casey Foundation to explore appropriate alternatives to detention.

## DELAWARE MEETS FEDERALLY MANDATED CHILD SAFETY GOALS

**T**he Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families' federally mandated improvement plan for child welfare services has met its goals for safety outcomes and has been released from continued monitoring of this outcome by the Administration for Children and Families (ACF).

In 2001, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' ACF conducted an intensive review of Delaware's child protective, foster care, adoption, family preservation, family support and independent living services. Since that time, the Division of Family Services developed and implemented a Performance Improvement Plan (PIP) to address certain factors and outcomes that evaluated strengths and needs.

"I am proud to say that Delaware has met the mandated safety outcomes for children in our care," said Carlyse Giddins, director of the Division of Family Services.

"Early in Governor Ruth Ann Minner's administration she signed an executive order directing the Children's Department to make child safety our first priority. This positive evaluation of our Performance Improvement Plan shows the commitment the Department has made in keeping with this priority."

As of December 31, 2003, ACF final reports for 40 states and the District of Columbia have been released. Delaware is tied for the second best score with four other states. Delaware is the only state to have successfully met the outcome of providing children with adequate services for their physical and mental health needs. Typically three sites from each state were selected for review. However, Delaware was only one of a handful of states subject to a statewide child welfare examination.

"Results of this evaluation are further proof that we are meeting the expectations of the federal government, our governor, but most importantly, our children," said Cabinet Secretary Cari DeSantis. "Under the guidance of Governor Minner and with the assistance of our many dedicated partners, we have worked hard to improve our foster care system, increased mental health services, opened transitional housing for youth leaving Ferris School, and created a new Holistic Services Team to work with children with intense and special needs. All of these positive changes relate to our improvement plan and these are changes we have made together."



## COATS FOR KIDS

The spirit of holiday giving arrived in early December at the Wal-Mart in Seaford. More than 50 children in need were able to select new winter coats at no cost to their families. This holiday gift was made possible by a private donor who covered the expense of the coats which were offered by Wal-Mart at cost. The partnership was facilitated by John Hollis, southern region director of the Delaware Community Foundation. The children invited to choose their coats are currently receiving services from the Delaware Children's Department. Above, Family Crisis Therapist Neola Duncan shows off the new coats selected for her clients.



**MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY**

Here at the Children's Department were encouraged last year to receive the Delaware Quality Award of Merit, following the previous year's Commitment Award. It was a testament to our hard work on behalf of Delaware's children and families. We are so honored to receive this award once again. More importantly, we are delighted to track our scores against the previous two years and to see the enormous progress we have made in each of the judged areas.

Once again, this award is solid proof of our growth and transformation from a 1970s child welfare system into one that is meeting the needs of today's 21st century children. For the Governor, the General Assembly, and the taxpayers, this means a good return on the investment in children's services in this state. For the children and families we serve, it means we are working hard every day to deliver quality services that meet changing needs. The fact that we have been able to do so in such a desperate economic climate is rather remarkable and due in large measure to the demonstrated dedication of all of our employees.

Ours is a service industry charged with alleviating crisis and helping children and their families to a safe and stable place, to grow in self-esteem and to embrace a sense of hope about the future. Yet, we still must balance the customer demands, employee requirements, financial picture and internal processes that are the foundations of any good organization. The application of sound business principles and management practices is not only possible in government social services, it is essential if we are to deliver on our promises as public servants and stewards of the public trust.

Our continued journey through the Delaware Quality Award process will remain a vital role in how we can do better so our children can do better. Receiving this Delaware Quality Award of Merit is, indeed, a tribute to the 1,200 people who are the Delaware Children's Department and to their commitment to "Think of the Child First" when serving the children of this state.

Thank you for all you do for the children of Delaware,

Cari DeSantis,  
Cabinet Secretary

**CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT COMMITTED TO HIGH STANDARDS IN SERVICES**

As a testament to its commitment to excellence and best practices, the Children's Department actively seeks and meets the rigorous standards of nationally recognized private third-party accreditation organizations. Recently, the Department renewed its accreditation with the Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) and American Correctional Association (ACA). These accreditations are measures of the Department's quality of services and provide stakeholders assurance that high standards are being upheld for children and families in Delaware.

**Child Mental Health Services: Highest Grade Yet From JCAHO**

The Delaware Children's Department, Division of Child Mental Health Services has been re-accredited for a three-year period by the Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO).

Child Mental Health Services provide mental health and substance abuse treatment to more than 2,200 children and their families each year who do not have health insurance or are covered by Medicaid but require services more intensive than the basic 30 hours of outpatient treatment can provide. The Division was the first child mental health system and the first public system in the nation to receive JCAHO accreditation in December 1997. DCMHS maintained its accreditation in 2000 and now in 2004, receiving the highest grade and least number of recommended improvements since the first accreditation.

The Department seeks accreditation as just one aspect of its quality assurance efforts. Both the central operations of the Division and its statewide network of behavioral health care providers were included in the accreditation survey. Division services range from outpatient to psychiatric inpatient care with 18 levels of care to serve children. There were no concerns or recommendations noted in the provision of care.

"This re-accreditation highlights the commitment of the Children's Department to families in Delaware," said Cabinet Secretary Cari DeSantis. "Despite national economic challenges we have been able to maintain high quality services, manage resources responsibly, and meet JCAHO accreditation standards."

"Our staff have broadened their responsibilities and incorporated new services that allow us to serve more children at home and in their communities. We have been able to introduce new providers to our system, begin Drug Court and Individualized Residential Treatment, and provide mental health and addictions support to the children's juvenile justice system," said Susan Czyk, director of Child Mental Health Services, who added that "all this occurred while maintaining quality of service as evidenced by the JCAHO re-accreditation."

**Youth Rehabilitative Services: Stevenson House Nationally Re-Accredited**

The William Marion Stevenson Detention Center with a score of 98 has earned a three-year accreditation with the American Correctional Association (ACA), a nationally recognized organization that sets standards criteria for adult and juvenile correctional facilities. It is the facility's fifth re-accreditation since 1988 and the first since the move to a new, larger facility in January 2003.

The detention facility, known as the Stevenson House, serves pre-adjudicated youth from Kent and Sussex counties. The facility provides a safe, secure, residential environment for detained youth while they receive a program of education and professional counseling.

"One of Governor Ruth Ann Minner's goals for the health, safety and self-sufficiency of every Delaware family is to focus on the prevention of crime not just punishment. We have a national model for a maximum secure care facility in Ferris School for Boys and strive for that same excellence in detention services," said Cabinet Secretary Cari DeSantis. "However, we have been chronically challenged by overcrowding and have engaged in private partnerships with organizations like the Annie E. Casey Foundation for ideas on how law enforcement, justice and the courts as well as the Delaware Children's Department can improve this aspect of the juvenile justice system."

The ACA reviewed several "quality of life" factors at the detention center including security, environmental conditions, academic and vocational education, social services, fire safety, medical care, food service, conditions of confinement, among others. The accreditation program is a professional peer review process based on national standards that have evolved since the founding of the ACA in 1870. The standards were developed by national leaders from the field of corrections, law, architecture, healthcare, and other groups interested in sound correctional management.

Secretary DeSantis said the Department always strives to "think of the child first" in its efforts to provide a safe environment that fosters growth in troubled children so that they will become productive members of the Delaware community. "This re-accreditation truly validates the efforts of the Children's Department staff to ensure that there is safety, stability, self-esteem and sense of hope in every child," she said.

Congratulations to the staff at both Child Mental Health Services and Stevenson House.



Stevenson House



**BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

Wilmington Mayor James Baker tells of his successful journey into politics to the young men and women housed at the New Castle Detention Center. Mayor Baker joined community leaders from across the state in sharing their personal experiences as part of the center's observance of February as Black History Month.

**BUDGET SUPPORTS COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES**

The Children's Department presented its FY 2005 Governor's Recommended Budget to the Joint Finance Committee in February. Highlights included additional intensive outpatient services in child mental health and a small increase in staff in case management and juvenile probation. The proposed budget is \$147.4 million in total funds.

"Children in crisis today require ever more intensive mental health services," Cabinet Secretary Cari DeSantis said. "This budget will help us expand our capability to serve more children in need of that care."

Over the past three years, the Department has undertaken and met a number of challenges that include implementing Governor Minner's Foster Care reform initiatives, creating a Holistic Services team, re-engineering juvenile probation services, developing individual residential treatment homes, extending supports for children leaving Ferris School for Boys, and deploying mental health services more broadly.

"The most important customers for the Delaware Children's Department are children in our care," said Secretary DeSantis. "Our vision and rallying cry has been 'Think of the Child First.' These are just five little words that force us to recognize that, at the end of the long arm of bureaucracy, there is a child depending on us. This request continues progress in areas that are most essential for our children and consistent with best practice in service delivery."

## FERRIS WEATHER STATION PART OF HOMELAND SECURITY EFFORTS



**F**erris School for Boys is part of an elite group of schools in Delaware that have been selected to participate in the nation's homeland security program. Ferris School is one of four schools that will provide information to the National Weather Service in the event of a terrorist attack or disaster. The school went through the rigorous process of installing and calibrating their weather station in order to qualify for Homeland Security certification. Government agencies, military, and emergency managers will now be able to use the weather data broadcast from atop Ferris to make vital decisions that may help to protect lives and property.

Ferris already serves as an official WeatherNet site for NBC-10. An exciting WeatherNet feature is that a camera image can be taken directly from the Ferris weather station. These InstaCam images are now being displayed during the weather forecast on NBC-10. Additionally, live conditions and the forecast for Ferris can be accessed on the internet by visiting the website at <http://ww2.instaweather.com/WCAU/> and entering the zip code 19805 in the Get Live Conditions and Forecast box.

## EMPLOYEES OF THE YEAR

**C**ongratulations to Helen Reader, a cook at Silverlake Treatment Center and Carl Nelson, administrator of the Planning, Monitoring, and Evaluation Unit, as 2003 Department Employees of the Year in the Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families. Additionally, Ms. Reader has been selected as a recipient of the Delaware Award for Excellence and Commitment in State Service.



Helen Reader

The children of Delaware are fortunate to have access to the talents, dedication and professionalism of the nearly 1,200 dedicated employees who make up the Children's Department. Each year, the Department recognizes up to two individuals who have gone above and beyond the call of duty to "Think of the Child First" in all aspects of their work. Both Ms. Reader and Mr. Nelson had been recipients of quarterly awards for outstanding service and commitment to the Department.



Carl Nelson

It will take all of us from across the divisions and within our own communities to ensure the future success of our children. The Children's Department has a very clear vision and rallying cry as it goes about its business of caring among Delaware's most vulnerable population. This vision to Think of the Child First keeps us focused on why we are here and why we do our jobs every day. Thank you to our Employees of the Year for being part of that commitment to excellence and serving as role models on behalf of our greatest asset — our children.

## POLICY SUPPORTS HIGH ETHICAL STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

**T**he Delaware Children's Department is committed to leadership and advocacy for a system of children's services that always "Thinks of the Child First." Its vision is for every child to have safety, stability, self-esteem, and a sense of hope. As the Department works toward a system of care that is child centered and assures effective, timely and appropriate support for Delaware's children, high ethical standards that guide the conduct of employees, contracted staff and volunteers will be more important than ever.

Recently a policy entitled Conditions of Employment/Standards of Conduct, Policy #305 was developed to provide a uniform standard of guidance and expectations to managers and employees in relation to criminal convictions and child abuse/neglect substantiations subsequent to an employee's initial hire. This policy also sets forth guidelines for employee conduct.

As chief advocate for Delaware's children, employees have the responsibility to ensure a child's safety and a duty to serve as positive role models. All employees must be free from criminal activity or involvement in substantiated cases of abuse/neglect that may lead to harm of any child and maintain a high standard of personal conduct both on the job and when representing the Department. Employees are expected to immediately inform his or her supervisor of any criminal convictions, arrests, investigations or indictment of themselves or of any investigation of child abuse/neglect or entry onto the Child Abuse Protection Registry subsequent to initial employment. Failure to do this could result in discipline, up to and including termination.

This policy is applicable to all Department employees, contracted staff and volunteers. The policy can be reviewed on line through either the state employee intranet site ([intranet.state.de.us/kids/policy.htm](http://intranet.state.de.us/kids/policy.htm)) or the public internet site ([www.state.de.us/kids/policy.htm](http://www.state.de.us/kids/policy.htm)).

## "ALL AS ONE"

Written by Jamal  
Directed by Dr. Marietta Dantonio-Fryer  
As read by Michael on March 10, 2004

(Editor's Note: Dr. Marietta Dantonio-Fryer of Cheney University assisted 14 teenage boys from the New Castle Detention Center to create the mural "All as One" during a weeklong project in March. The mural will hang in the program area of the center. Also assisting with the project were Ericka Husik, center teacher; Anika Smith and Judith Young, Cheney University students; and, Kathy Felloso, Youth Rehabilitative Services Community Advisory board member. Jamal is one of the teens who participated as a recorder and artist. This is his first published article.)

**T**he first day we started this art project program we learned that we needed teamwork, to learn to paint and draw, and day by day we learned how to express what each animal and color represents and how this relates to each one of us. We had to decide what positions we were going to take in the project. Our group is called the A.R.T. P.E.A.C.E. M.A.K.E.R.S. — 14 students, 14 letters.

The position Jamal took was R and what R means is the Recorder. We had three A positions with each meaning different things. The first A means Administrator and that position was held by Lou. The second A means Assistant and that position was held by Joe. The last A means Assistant too and that position went to Dominique. There is one more R which means Researcher and that position went to James. We had three Es. They are the Enthusiasts; the students were Anthony, Aaron and Chris. We have a T position which is Technician and that person was Paul. Next we have a P which stands for Paint Assistant. That person was James L. Then we have a C for Communicator and Michael took that position. The last three letters are M, K, and S. They stand for Manager, Kind Negotiator and Systems Organizer. These positions were held by Rome, Tim and Rashawn.

The 14 of us have different kinds of animals that represent us, different personalities and some of us have different colors showing our strong traits. All of the animals that we chose are the cougar, scorpion, owl, coyote, hawk, angel, wolf, seahorse, bear, alligator, raven and horse. The colors that represent us are brown, red, violet, purple, yellow, grey, black, dark blue, dark green and green. These show our real personalities. We are true, cool, friendly, confident, brave, hearted, humble, honest, strong, careful, multi-talented, gentlemen, nice, respectful and for real. The buildings we chose are skyscrapers, house, temple, castles, pyramid and a factory. We chose different trees and different kinds of weather that represent everyone's personalities. Every step of the way we had to think about the image and what it stood for.

Artist and Cheney University Professor Marietta Dantonio-Fryer is pictured with the "All as One" mural that will hang in the program area of the New Castle County Detention Center.



To get a title for our mural, we all gave suggestions and we voted on one name. Majority vote was followed to get the name "All as One." We chose to paint our hand prints, a left hand forms one person and a right hand forms a second person. We are representing UNITY and that everyone worked as ONE. We also chose stones: many diamonds, ruby, blue sapphire and topaz that also show how we see ourselves. The heart in the middle represents all of our personalities together.

We can do anything if we put our minds to it with a little guidance.

## TERRY CENTER GRANT HELPS VICTIMS & FAMILIES

**T**he Terry Center has received a \$41,300 grant from the Criminal Justice Council to help children, age 14 years and younger who have been victimized in some way and their family members. The "Families Together: Treating Child Victims" project will offer: eight weekly group sessions for children to discuss victimization issues and ways of taking care of themselves; eight weekly group sessions for families to provide support and education about such issues as trauma, loss, and agencies with which they will have to interact; development of a pool of volunteers to be an additional source of support to the families; and, provision of transportation to those families in need so that they will be able to attend the evening groups. Referrals to the program will come from a variety of sources including the Department, schools, and community agencies. Approximately five groups, serving between 20 and 40 families, will be initiated. In addition to the treatment, grant staff will provide several general training sessions throughout the year. If you are interested in more information, please call Inez Hanson at 302-577-4270, ext. 3003 or Dr. Tom Hebeisen at 302-577-4270, ext. 3042.

# TEAM SPIRIT AWARD

Teamwork is essential in order to accomplish the many goals of the Department. About 1,200 persons throughout the state are responsible for numerous tasks throughout the day, month and year. The "Team Spirit Award" strives to recognize a group of team members who have gone above the call of duty with enthusiasm and zest for their work.

**D**ivision of Family Service workers in Kent County are proving their dedication to the children and families they serve by their willingness to go the extra mile to make the holidays brighter.

Each year, Kent County has held a holiday party for foster children and their families. Foster home coordinators and other staffers have worked very hard over the years to build this event into something special for children who are away from home and for the families who go out of their way to give these children a safe and loving home.

Last year, the event had grown to the point that Kent County had secured the sponsorship of the football coach and team at Delaware State University. The coach was able to facilitate the use of the Martin Luther King Student Center and a donation from the University to provide dinner for over 150 people. Due to personnel changes at the University in the fall, Kent County DFS lost a major advocate in the football coach. In addition, the foster home coordinator who had organized the party for the past two years was out on early maternity leave.

At that point, the event was in jeopardy. Kent County DFS team would not give up. Stacy Willson, a newly appointed foster home coordinator, took on the responsibility of



From left to right: Third Row - Candi Fairburn, Diana Dolan-Beulah, Cyndi Bryant-Harrell, Nicole Mosley, Stacy Willson; Second Row - Thina Walker, Vikki Harris, Dottie Maben, Monica Morris; Front - Celeste Bishop; Not pictured: Celeste Hufford, Karen Favors, Salomie Conley, Becky Zimmerman

organizing the party. She worked tirelessly to convince the University that the party was a good cause and beneficial to the community. The University donated the use of their Memorial Gym. Football players and cheerleaders once again donated their time and the school staff assisted in setting up the room. The University could not provide dinner so DFS staffers held a bake sale, arranged casual dress day fundraisers, procured discounts on pizza and obtained donations of soda, snacks and paper goods. Toys for Tots generously donated gifts for each child who attended the party. A tree and other items were donated and were given away as door prizes. Even Santa Claus paid a visit to the delight of the children.

"Our foster families look forward to this party each and every year," said Cabinet Secretary Cari DeSantis. "Even though this year's weather may have kept some of them home, this party can definitely be considered a big success. Each year, the Kent County Division of Family Services staff goes out of their way to hold this event, but this year seemed particularly special because it would never have been possible without their quick action as well as their dedication and caring. They are truly thinking of the child first and we are pleased to recognize them with this quarter's Team Spirit Award."



## FORUM TO PRESENT BEST PRACTICES IN PREVENTION & EARLY INTERVENTION

**T**he Children's Department is staging its annual statewide conference to provide child welfare professionals with a dynamic learning experience and increase their knowledge about preventing child abuse and neglect, substance abuse, delinquency and mental health problems in Delaware's youth. The 14th Annual Prevention and Early Intervention Forum, "Meeting the Needs of 21st Century Kids: A Portrait of Best Practices in Prevention and Early Intervention," will be held April 26-27, 2004 at the DuPont Country Club on Rockland Road, Wilmington, DE.

Keynote speakers include Hasan Davis, youth advocate and director of Empowerment Solutions in Kentucky and Dr. Sharon Yoder, motivational author and consultant. Cabinet Secretary Cari DeSantis will present an overview of the "System of Care" philosophy and what it means for Delaware at the policy level. Governor Ruth Ann Minner will present the 2004 Village Awards to individuals or volunteers who have rendered outstanding service in the field of prevention and early intervention. Awards will be given in two categories. Those who plan, administer or lead prevention programs or efforts will receive the "Build the Village" award; while those who work directly with participants in effective prevention programming will receive the "Live the Village" award.

Last year, approximately 400 education and community services professionals including family service specialists, educators, law enforcement officials, mental health, alcohol, tobacco and other drug prevention staff, and grass root community organizers took part in this high profile event. Organizers anticipate a similar turnout this year. Registration deadline is April 14 and fee for attendance is \$125. There will be no on-site registration as space is limited. For more information contact the Office of Prevention and Early Intervention at 302-892-4500.

### MISSION STATEMENT

OUR MISSION IS TO PROVIDE LEADERSHIP AND ADVOCACY FOR DELAWARE'S CHILDREN. OUR PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY IS TO PROVIDE AND MANAGE A RANGE OF SERVICES FOR CHILDREN WHO HAVE EXPERIENCED ABANDONMENT, ABUSE, ADJUDICATION, MENTAL ILLNESS, NEGLECT OR SUBSTANCE ABUSE; AND WE ENDORSE A HOLISTIC APPROACH TO ENABLE CHILDREN TO REACH THEIR FULLEST POTENTIAL.

### VISION STATEMENT

OUR VISION IS TO THINK OF THE CHILD FIRST! WE WANT EVERY CHILD TO BE SAFE AND HAVE STABILITY, SELF-ESTEEM, AND A SENSE OF HOPE. THE DELAWARE CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT WILL LEAD A SYSTEM OF CARE (BOTH COMMUNITY BASED AND RESIDENTIAL) THAT IS CHILD CENTERED AND ASSURES EFFECTIVE, TIMELY AND APPROPRIATE SUPPORT FOR DELAWARE'S CHILDREN. WE WILL ACHIEVE OUR MISSION WHEN FAMILIES, STAFF, COMMUNITY PARTNERS, AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS THINK OF THE CHILD FIRST. OUR ACTIVITIES INCLUDE PREVENTION, EARLY INTERVENTION, ASSESSMENT, TREATMENT, PERMANENCY, AND AFTER CARE. THE DEPARTMENT WILL OFFER DESIRABLE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES, ATTRACTING AND RETAINING PROUD AND TALENTED EMPLOYEES WHO ARE MOTIVATED TO THINK OF THE CHILD FIRST IN ALL THAT THEY DO.

## COMCAST NEWSMAKERS

Cabinet Secretary Cari DeSantis was the Comcast's Newsmaker of the Week in early March. Secretary DeSantis was a featured guest on a special 30-minute edition of Comcast Newsmakers on Children's Services for the 21st Century that aired March 14 on CNB. The show, hosted by Laura Jones, was broadcast throughout Delaware, Pennsylvania and New Jersey. Additionally, the Cabinet Secretary was featured in five Comcast Newsmakers short spots on CNN Headline News in November and March. She spoke about Juvenile Justice Reengineering, Foster Care Reform, Children's Services for the 21st Century, System of Care/Holistic Services Approach to Children's Welfare Services and Children's Mental Health Services. Above, Secretary DeSantis (right) and Host Laura Jones take a break from filming on the Comcast Newsmakers set.



## TO REPORT CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT, CALL THE 24-HOUR REPORT LINE:

**1-800-292-9582**

For information on becoming a foster parent, call the Delaware Helpline: **1-800-464-4357**

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Tell us what you think: **302-633-2500**

Website: [www.state.de.us/kids](http://www.state.de.us/kids) • Email: [seenandheard@state.de.us](mailto:seenandheard@state.de.us)

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Cari DeSantis, Cabinet Secretary

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State of Delaware  
The Department of Services  
for Children, Youth and  
Their Families

