

The Blue Ribbon Commission believes that the children of Los Angeles County have a right to grow up free from abuse and neglect. The Commission further believes that abused or neglected children have a right to be protected against further injury. Towards these ends, children and families should be supported so that all children are ultimately able to reach their full potential. To ensure these rights and improve safety for children, as measured by reduced serious injuries due to abuse and neglect, less recurrence of maltreatment and fewer child fatalities, the Commission will focus on systemic change and comprehensive countywide approaches that extend beyond DCFS to include Public Health, Health Services, Mental Health, the Sheriff, the Medical Examiner, First Five and other agencies and organizations that may later be identified. The Commission will identify strategies that reflect the broad countywide responsibility for welfare and safety and ensure accountability from entities ranging from the Board of Supervisors to front line practitioners.