

DCFS RESPONSE TO DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Policy Roundtable

January 31, 2006

1. What are the programs & activities of your agency in regards to serving children in Skid Row?

DCFS is a member of the Skid Row Outreach Team. As a member of the team, we assist in conducting outreach to the homeless families in Skid Row. The outreach occurs during the regular county business hours. For the families that the Outreach Team engages, the DCFS staff person conducts an assessment to address the child safety issues as they may relate to the homeless family. We are also working closely with the service providers in the Skid Row area. For specific information as to our progress with the Skid Row Providers we have attached a summary of the meeting between DCFS and the Central City East Service Providers on 12/15/05.

2. What enhanced services are you considering in response to the Board Motion?

Since the Board Motion of 12/25/05, DCFS has expanded the outreach to the homeless families during the evening hours through the Emergency Command Post (ERCP) staff. Two Children's Social Workers conduct outreach during the hours of 6:00-10:00 PM seven days a week. This enhancement began approximately two weeks ago.

3. What formal agreements/contracts currently exist (and with whom) or are being considered to further service integration?

The agreement/contract between Para Los Ninos, the family preservation agency that provides services to the Skid Row area is being modified to address the needs of homeless families. Planning is currently underway. Additional information may be available on Monday, January 31.