



State of Connecticut

CFSP - 2020 - 2024

Statements of Commitment from our sister State Agencies

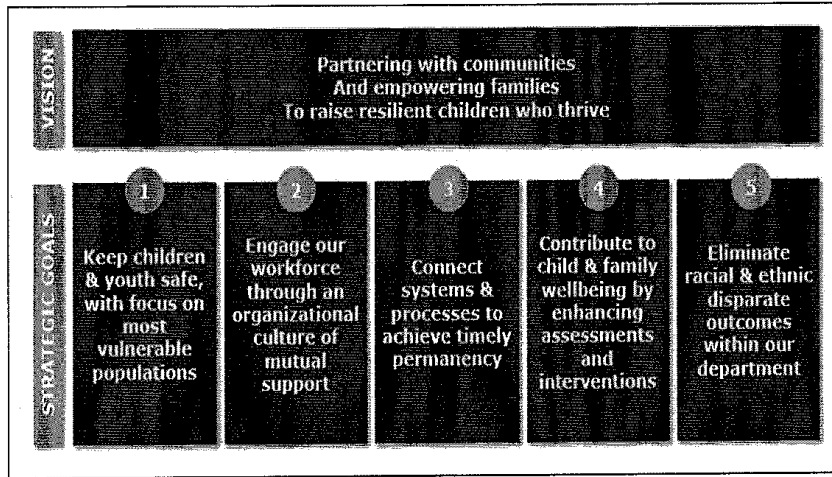


STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Statement of Commitment to the Development of the  
Connecticut Child and Family Well-being System

The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) is the administrative arm of the Connecticut State Board of Education. Through leadership, curriculum, research, planning, evaluation, assessment, data analyses and other assistance, the Department helps to ensure equal opportunity and excellence in education for all Connecticut students. As leader of the CSDE, I am committed to furthering the development of the child welfare system in Connecticut. The CSDE acknowledges the value and importance in a system that partners, collaborates, and shares resources to support and strengthen families in Connecticut. The vision established for this work is mutually supportive of improving the well-being of all children and families.



The CSDE supports families across the state of Connecticut. This is demonstrated via the Commissioner’s Roundtable for Family and Community Engagement in Education. The Roundtable was instrumental in developing Connecticut’s common definition and framework of family engagement in the new publication: *Full, Equal and Equitable Partnerships with Families*. The Department believes in working together to strengthen families and keeping children safe.

The CSDE remains committed to sharing data with DCF in a secure and confidential manner in compliance with the Family Education Privacy Rights Act, 20 U.S.C. §1232g so that DCF has sufficient information to determine the educational progress for children in its care / custody and support their stability and educational success.

The CSDE supports the development of the Connecticut Child and Family Well-being System concept, and will continue to intentionally collaborate with all state agencies in improving outcomes for children and families in our state.

I acknowledge that each agency has its own rules, regulations, mandates and responsibilities that will always remain intact. How we define navigating our systems and working between our networks, will define how we collectively operate to better serve children and families in Connecticut.

*Dianna R. Wentzell*

Signature

Dr. Dianna R. Wentzell  
Printed Name

Commissioner of the Connecticut State Department of Education Date: 5/28/19

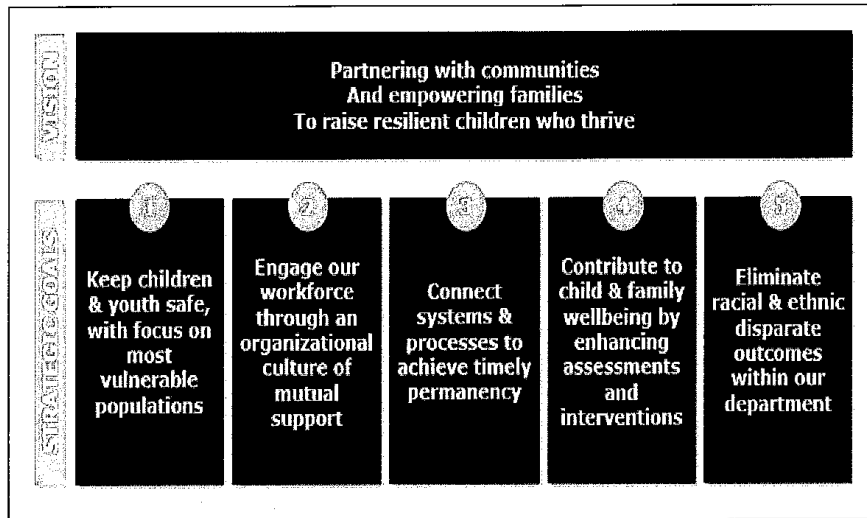
## *CSDE: Commitment to Partnerships*

The CSDE currently leads the following work groups with varied agency representation that may be instrumental in continued exploration of different aspects of this work.

<b>Workgroup/Council Name</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Agency Representation</b>
<b>Interagency Council for Ending the Achievement Gap</b>	<p>The work of the council focused on issues related to education reform, health, housing, wraparound services, and the alignment of state agency efforts.</p> <p><a href="https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Interagency-Council/Interagency-Council-for-Ending-the-Achievement-Gap">https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Interagency-Council/Interagency-Council-for-Ending-the-Achievement-Gap</a></p> <p>The council exists in statute and is chaired by the Lieutenant Governor and meets quarterly.</p>	<p>By statute representation includes: DAS, DCF, DECD, CSDE, DPH, DSS, OPM, Board of Regents, DOH, CSSD. OCE is not named in the statute, however, the agency is an active participant.</p> <p><i>(Note: with recent change in administration the council is being reconstituted)</i></p>
<b>Commissioner's Roundtable for Family and Community Engagement in Education</b>	<p>The purpose of the Commissioner's Roundtable for Family and Community Engagement in Education (Commissioner's Roundtable) is to advise the Commissioner of Education regarding policy and programmatic priorities to improve outcomes for all students and advance the State Board of Education's comprehensive plan for equity and excellence in Connecticut schools.</p> <p><a href="https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Commissioners-Round-Table/Commissioners-Roundtable-for-Family-and-Community-Engagement-in-Education">https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Commissioners-Round-Table/Commissioners-Roundtable-for-Family-and-Community-Engagement-in-Education</a></p>	<p>Membership on the Commissioner's Roundtable is intended to reflect a balanced representation of the three major constituencies -- school/district staff, parents (or guardians) and community members as well as students. Appointments to the group are made upon recommendation by the Commissioner of Education and the extent possible, reflect Connecticut's geographic, economic, ethnic and racial diversity.</p> <p>State agency partners are invited in as appropriate. OEC is a regular participant.</p>
<b>Connecticut School Discipline Collaborative</b>	<p>The Connecticut School Discipline Collaborative advises the Commissioner of Education and State Board of Education on strategies for transforming school discipline to reduce the overall and disproportionate use of exclusionary discipline.</p> <p><a href="https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Discipline-in-Schools">https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Discipline-in-Schools</a></p>	<p>Members reflect a diverse range of expertise in the fields of education, public policy, law, youth development and community leadership.</p> <p>There is standing invitation for state agencies to participate.</p>
<b>Strategic Action Group on Chronic Absence</b>	<p>The Strategic Action Group On Chronic Absence promotes new approaches to achieve measurable results in improving school attendance. The group also promotes statewide coordination and communication among critical partners.</p> <p><a href="https://www.cga.ct.gov/kid/rba/results.asp">https://www.cga.ct.gov/kid/rba/results.asp</a></p>	<p>Multiple partners, including state agencies. DCF is a participant.</p>

**Statement of Commitment to the development of the  
Connecticut Child and Family Wellbeing System**

As leader of a state agency which works with Connecticut's families and children, I am committed to furthering the development of the child welfare system in Connecticut. The Department of Children and Families acknowledges the value and importance in a system that partners, collaborates, and shares resources to support and strengthen families in Connecticut. We believe in the vision established for this work.



Child welfare systems are complex, and are not a single entity. Our organization supports families across the state of Connecticut. We believe in working together to strengthen families and keeping children safe.

As we continue to reinforce the development of a trauma-informed child and family wellbeing system, it is important that we work together across agencies. As a state, we need to place a stake in the ground and commit to working together deliberately and working towards shared resources in this effort.

The Department of \_\_\_\_\_ is committed to this concept, and we will be part of the framework regarding how the State of Connecticut will be collectively joining to serve children and families and thus redefining our child welfare system.

I acknowledge that each agency has their own rules, regulations, mandates and responsibilities that will always remain intact. How we define navigating our systems and working between our networks, will define how we collectively operate to serve children and families in Connecticut better.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

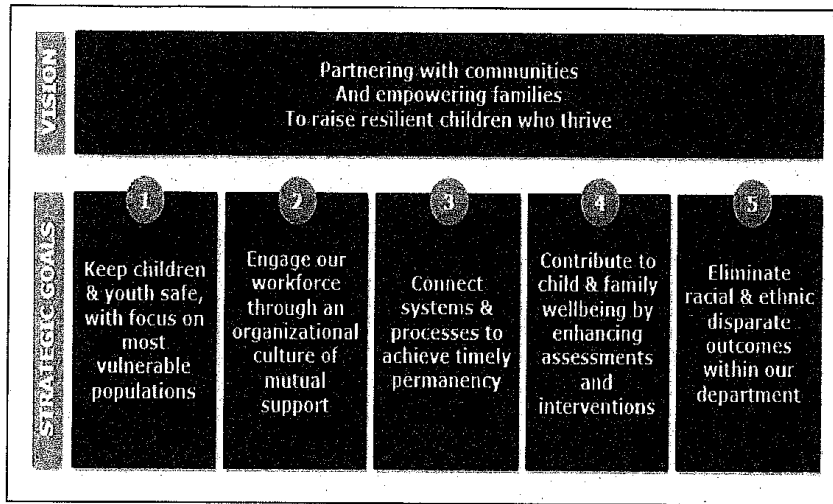
**Vannessa L. Dorantes, LMSW**  
Commissioner  
Department of Children and Families  
By: \_\_\_\_\_

Commissioner of the \_\_\_\_\_  
Duty Authorized Agent

Date: 6/12/19

**Statement of Commitment to the development of the  
Connecticut Child and Family Wellbeing System**

As leader of a state agency which works with Connecticut's families and children, I am committed to furthering the development of the child welfare system in Connecticut. The Department of Developmental Services acknowledges the value and importance in a system that partners, collaborates, and shares resources to support and strengthen families in Connecticut. We believe in the vision established for this work.



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The Department of Developmental Services is committed to this concept, and we will be part of the framework regarding how the State of Connecticut will be collectively joining to serve children and families and thus redefining our child welfare system.

I acknowledge that each agency has their own rules, regulations, mandates and responsibilities that will always remain intact. How we define navigating our systems and working between our networks, will define how we collectively operate to serve children and families in Connecticut better.

Signature

Printed Name

Commissioner of the Dept. of Developmental Services Date: 5/24/2019

**Statement of Commitment to the development of the  
Connecticut Child and Family Wellbeing System**

As leader of a state agency which works with Connecticut's families and children, I am committed to furthering the development of the child welfare system in Connecticut. **The Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection** acknowledges the value and importance in a system that partners, collaborates, and shares resources to support and strengthen families in Connecticut. We believe in the vision established for this work.



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The **Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection** is committed to this concept, and we will be part of the framework regarding how the State of Connecticut will be collectively joining to serve children and families and thus redefining our child welfare system.

I acknowledge that each agency has their own rules, regulations, mandates and responsibilities that will always remain intact. How we define navigating our systems and working between our networks, will define how we collectively operate to serve children and families in Connecticut better.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

James C. Rovella  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

Commissioner of the DESPP Date: 6.4.19



Ned Lamont  
Governor

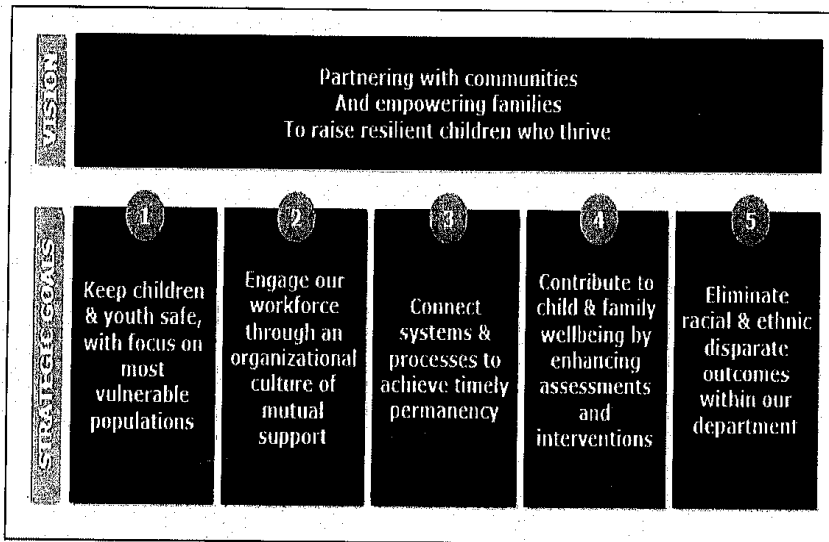
## STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING



Seila Mosquera-Bruno  
Commissioner

### Statement of Commitment to the development of the Connecticut Child and Family Wellbeing System

As leader of a state agency which works with Connecticut's families and children, I am committed to furthering the development of the child welfare system in Connecticut. The Department of Housing acknowledges the value and importance in a system that partners, collaborates, and shares resources to support and strengthen families in Connecticut. We believe in the vision established for this work.



Child welfare systems are complex, and are not a single entity. Our organization supports families across the state of Connecticut. We believe in working together to strengthen families and keeping children safe.

As we continue to reinforce the development of a trauma-informed child and family wellbeing system, it is important that we work together across agencies. As a state, we need to place a stake in the ground and commit to working together deliberately and working towards shared resources in this effort.

The Department of Housing is committed to this concept, and we will be part of the framework regarding how the State of Connecticut will be collectively joining to serve children and families and thus redefining our child welfare system.

I acknowledge that each agency has their own rules, regulations, mandates and responsibilities that will always remain intact. How we define navigating our systems and working between our networks, will define how we collectively operate to serve children and families in Connecticut better.

Seila Mosquera-Bruno  
Signature

SEILA MOSQUERA-BRUNO  
Printed Name

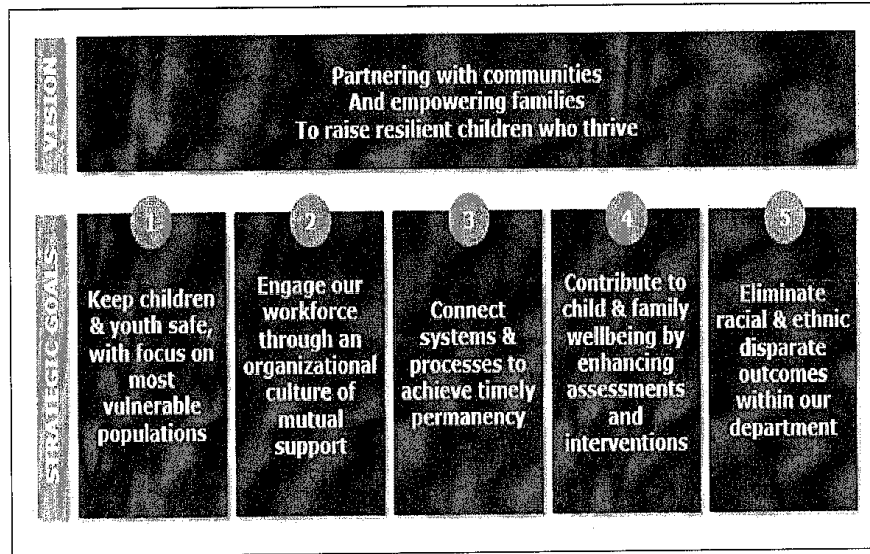
Commissioner of the Department of Housing Date: 5/27/19



Statement of Commitment to the development of the Connecticut Child and Family Wellbeing System

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JUN - 7 2019

As leader of a state agency which works with Connecticut's families and children, I am committed to furthering the development of the child welfare system in Connecticut. The Department of Labor acknowledges the value and importance in a system that partners, collaborates, and shares resources to support and strengthen families in Connecticut. We believe in the vision established for this work.



Child welfare systems are complex, and are not a single entity. Our organization supports families across the state of Connecticut. We believe in working together to strengthen families and keeping children safe.

As we continue to reinforce the development of a trauma-informed child and family wellbeing system, it is important that we work together across agencies. As a state, we need to place a stake in the ground and commit to working together deliberately and working towards shared resources in this effort.

The Department of Labor is committed to this concept, and we will be part of the framework regarding how the State of Connecticut will be collectively joining to serve children and families and thus redefining our child welfare system.

I acknowledge that each agency has their own rules, regulations, mandates and responsibilities that will always remain intact. How we define navigating our systems and working between our networks, will define how we collectively operate to serve children and families in Connecticut better.

Signature

Printed Name

KURT D. WESTBY

Commissioner of the

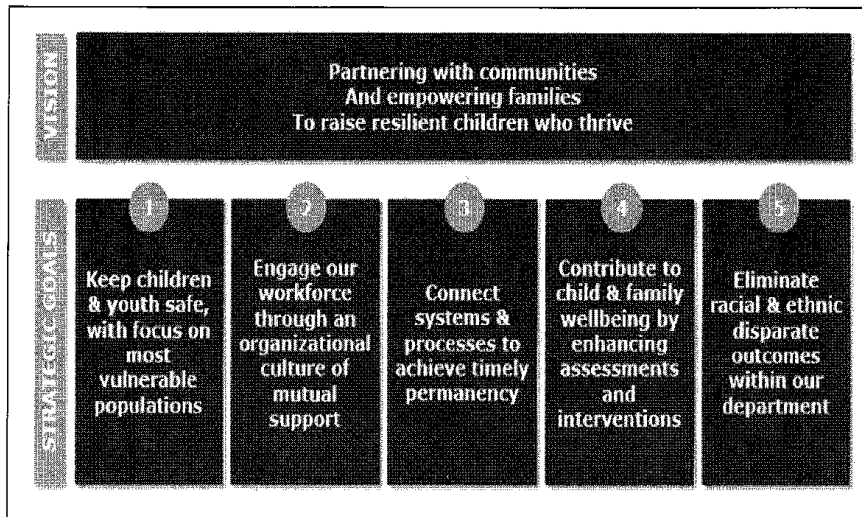
Dept. of Labor

Date:

6-5-19

Statement of Commitment to the development of the  
Connecticut Child and Family Wellbeing System

As an individual who leads a state agency which works with Connecticut's families and children, I am committed to furthering the development of a child welfare system in Connecticut. The Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) acknowledges the value and importance in a system that partners, collaborates, and shares resources to support and strengthen families in Connecticut. We believe in the vision established for this work.



Child welfare systems are complex, and are not a single entity. Our organization supports families across the state of Connecticut and we believe in working together to strengthen families and keeping children safe.

As we continue to reinforce the development of a child and family wellbeing system, it is important that we work together across agencies to serve and support families in Connecticut. As a state we need to place a stake in the ground and commit to working together and sharing resources in this effort.

The Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services is committed to this concept, and we will be part of the framework regarding how the State of Connecticut will be collectively joining together to serve children and families and thus redefining our child welfare system.

I acknowledge that each agency has their own rules, regulations, mandates and responsibilities that will always remain intact, however how we define navigating our systems, and work through our bureaucracy, will define how we collectively are operating to serve children and families in Connecticut.



Signature

Miriam E. Delphin-Rittmon, Ph.D.

Printed Name

Commissioner

Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services Date: June 20, 2019

## Statement of Commitment to the development of the Connecticut Child and Family Wellbeing System

As leader of a state agency which works with Connecticut's families and children, I am committed to furthering the development of the child welfare system in Connecticut. The Department of Public Health acknowledges the value and importance in a system that partners, collaborates, and shares resources to support and strengthen families in Connecticut. We believe in the vision established for this work.

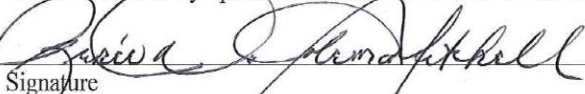


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The Department of Public Health is committed to this concept, and we will be part of the framework regarding how the State of Connecticut will be collectively joining to serve children and families and thus redefining our child welfare system.

I acknowledge that each agency has their own rules, regulations, mandates and responsibilities that will always remain intact. How we define navigating our systems and working between our networks, will define how we collectively operate to serve children and families in Connecticut better.

  
Signature

Renée D. Coleman-Mitchell  
Printed Name

Commissioner of the Department of Public Health Date: 6/24/19

**Statement of Commitment to the development of the  
Connecticut Child and Family Wellbeing System**

As leader of a state agency which works with Connecticut’s families and children, I am committed to furthering the development of the child welfare system in Connecticut. The Department of Rehabilitation Services acknowledges the value and importance in a system that partners, collaborates, and shares resources to support and strengthen families in Connecticut. We believe in the vision established for this work.



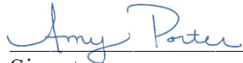
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The Department of Rehabilitation Services is committed to this concept, and we will be part of the framework regarding how the State of Connecticut will be collectively joining to serve children and families and thus redefining our child welfare system.

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I acknowledge that each agency has their own rules, regulations, mandates and responsibilities that will always remain intact. How we define navigating our systems and working between our networks, will define how we collectively operate to serve children and families in Connecticut better.

  
Signature

Amy Porter  
Printed Name

Commissioner of the Department of Rehabilitation Services Date: 6/4/19



RODERICK L. BREMBY  
Commissioner

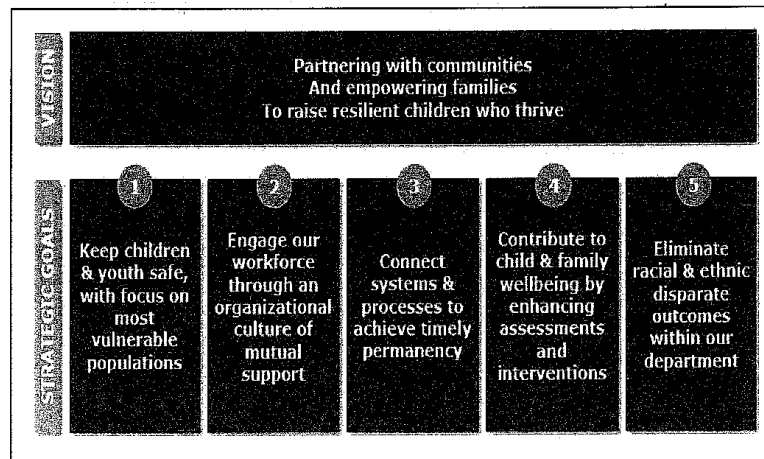
**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**  
**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

**OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER**

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(860) 424-5057  
EMAIL  
[commis.dss@ct.gov](mailto:commis.dss@ct.gov)

**Statement of Commitment to the development of the Connecticut Child and Family Wellbeing System**

As leader of a state agency which works with Connecticut’s families and children, I am committed to furthering the development of the child welfare system in Connecticut. The Department of Social Services acknowledges the value and importance in a system that partners, collaborates, and shares resources to support and strengthen families in Connecticut. We believe in the vision established for this work.



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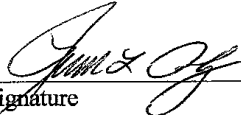
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I acknowledge that each agency has their own rules, regulations, mandates and responsibilities that will always remain intact. How we define navigating our systems and working between our networks, will define how we collectively operate to serve children and families in Connecticut better.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Roderick L. Bremby  
Printed Name

Commissioner of the Department of Social Services Date: May 28, 2019



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**  
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS  
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER  
287 West Street  
Rocky Hill, CT 06067



***Thomas J. Saadi***  
***Commissioner***

*Ph. 860-616-3684*

June 10, 2019

Vanessa Dorantes  
Commissioner  
Ct Department of Children and Families  
505 Hudson Street, Suite 3  
Harford, CT 06106

**RE: Connecticut Child and Family Wellbeing System**

The mission of the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) is "Serving Those Who Served" and, as I remind people across our State, families serve with their Veterans, when that are in uniform and when they come home. As such, I am committed to furthering the development of the child welfare system in Connecticut through building partnerships, collaboration, and sharing resources to support and strengthen families in Connecticut including military families that experience the extended absences of loved ones and the unique stress of mobilizations and deployments.

As the DVA provides services and programs to military families across our state we know that multiple agencies working together can do so much more than working separately when it comes to strengthen families and keeping children safe. Cross agency collaborations are a force multiplier allowing for the increased and efficient delivery of programs and services in fiscally challenging times.

The DVA is committed to this concept, and we will be part of the framework regarding how the State of Connecticut will be collectively joining to serve children and families and thus redefining our child welfare system.

While each agency, including the DVA has, its own rules, regulations, and statutory responsibilities this does not limit us from looking for opportunities where we can collectively operate to serve children and families in Connecticut better.

Truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Thomas J. Saadi".

Thomas J. Saadi  
Commissioner





Ned Lamont  
Governor  
Susan Bysiewicz  
Lt. Governor

## STATE OF CONNECTICUT OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD



Connecticut Office of  
Early Childhood

Beth Bye  
Commissioner

May 24, 2019

Vannessa Dorantes  
Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Children and Families (DCF)  
505 Hudson St  
Hartford, CT 06106

**Subject: Statement of Commitment Regarding A Statewide Vision of Child and Family Services**

The Office of Early Childhood (OEC) is committed to continued and expanded partnership, coordination, and collaboration with the Department of Children and Families (DCF) and other state agencies, as Connecticut aims to reshape its child welfare system and proactively strengthen families through primary prevention of child maltreatment.

**OEC's Vision:**

All young children in Connecticut are safe, healthy, learning and thriving. Each child is surrounded by a strong network of nurturing adults who deeply value the importance of the first years of a child's life and have the skills, knowledge, support and passion to meet the unique needs of every child.

**Our Work:**

- Provide funding, standards, regulations, training and oversight to ensure that early care and education programs for young children
  - are safe, healthy and nurturing;
  - effectively support children's physical, social, emotional and cognitive development; and,
  - are accessible to all children, particularly those facing barriers, risks or challenges to their healthy development and success.
- Provide home visiting services, funding and training to support families raising young children to ensure the children's health, well-being and positive growth and development and to prevent child abuse or neglect.

The OEC maintains partnerships and collaborations with numerous organizations around prevention programs, such as: the DCF/Head Start/Early Childhood Collaboration, state- and federally-funded home visiting programs, activities under the Community Based Grants for the Prevention of Child Abuse Program (CBCAP), supports within the Birth to Three system, the state's Two-Generational approaches, and training around children's social and emotional development, among others. The agency is committed to working together across all of our state's agencies, initiatives, and programs to strengthen families and keep children safe.

Beth Bye  
Commissioner, Connecticut Office of Early Childhood

Phone: (860) 500-4412 · Fax: (860) 326-0554  
450 Columbus Boulevard, Suite 301  
Hartford, Connecticut 06103  
[www.ct.gov/oec](http://www.ct.gov/oec)

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## Statement of Commitment to the Development of the Connecticut Child and Family Wellbeing System

As leader of a state agency which works with Connecticut's families and children, I am committed to furthering the development of the child welfare system in Connecticut. The Department of The Office of the Healthcare Advocate acknowledges the value and importance in a system that partners, collaborates, and shares resources to support and strengthen families in Connecticut. We believe in the vision established for this work.

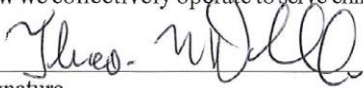


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The Department of the Office of the Healthcare Advocate is committed to this concept, and we will be part of the framework regarding how the State of Connecticut will be collectively joining to serve children and families and thus redefining our child welfare system.

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Signature

Ted Doolittle  
Printed Name

State Healthcare Advocate \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 6/4/19