



City of Philadelphia's
Division of Social Services,
Department of Behavioral Health and Mental Retardation Services
and Department of Human Services

Improving Systems, Improving Lives

February 2, 2006

The Mayor's Blue Ribbon Commission on Children's Behavioral Health

The Mayor's Blue Ribbon Commission on Children's Behavioral Health is a body of knowledgeable and committed people with a shared interest in the behavioral health needs of Philadelphia's children.

Statement of Purpose

The purpose of the Blue Ribbon Commission is to improve the quality and efficiency of the behavioral health system of care for Philadelphia's children and their families.

Goal

The Commission will identify a series of recommendations encompassing policy and practice reforms within the Philadelphia behavioral health system that will lead to the creation of the best child and adolescent behavioral health system in the country. The recommendations will:

- Reflect the strengths of the current system, while recognizing necessary changes.
- Address health disparities in accessing services.
- Support expansion of the range of service options.
- Support integration with the child welfare, education and juvenile justice systems.
- Promote evidence-based intervention practices.
- Recognize that all services in the system must reflect the cultural richness of the City's children.