



**FAMILY-CENTERED,
NEIGHBORHOOD BASED SERVICES
aka FAMILY 2 FAMILY**

DEAR NEIGHBOR,

HI! I'M 8 YEARS OLD AND THIS IS A PICTURE OF MY NEIGHBORHOOD. ALL OF MY FRIENDS ARE HERE, SO IS MY SCHOOL. MY MOM TAKES CARE OF US. DAD LEFT A WHILE AGO AND NEVER CAME BACK. SOMETIMES THINGS GET CONFUSING. MY MOM GETS UPSET. SHE SEEMS REAL UNHAPPY. OUR GRANDMA SAYS MOM IS DEPRESSED. MY SISTER AND ME AREN'T SURE WHO TO TALK TO WHEN WE RUN OUT OF FOOD OR WHEN OUR CLOTHES NEED WASHING. WE HAVE A SOCIAL WORKER WHO IS REAL NICE, BUT SOMETIMES I JUST WANT A FRIEND. JUST LIKE MR. ROGERS SAYS, WON'T YOU BE MY NEIGHBOR?

Family problems are resolved most effectively and lastingly with team effort. While most of us have family and friends we can count on when we are in a jam, families in need of public services are more vulnerable and less likely to have a strong support system. Coming together as a team of parents, neighbors, respected community members, and service providers we can find solutions to problems vulnerable families cannot find on their own. **Family-to-Family depends on the old adage "It Takes a Village to Protect a Child." Community solutions achieve long-term results.**

As part of the **JUVENILE COURT SYSTEM**, you can help support children in their own neighborhoods. Review the child's case with an eye on keeping the child safely in the home or in the community. Assist by participating in the Family Case Conference process; require that identified local services be provided in the child's community by local providers. Support the child welfare agency's decisions - child safety is not taken lightly - the agency wants what is in the child's best short and long-term interest.