



## 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. **Community solutions achieve long term results.**

As part of **LAW ENFORCEMENT**, you can help support kids in their own neighborhoods. Wave to local children and stop to learn their names when you have time. Show them your police car. Make sure they know they can count on you when there is trouble.

By the way, build partnerships with your child protection agency - they need your support in protecting the county's children. Let them know of local trouble spots, and give them assistance or recommendations on how to travel safely. Accompany social workers on difficult calls. Work jointly on possible criminal cases. Report suspected child abuse or neglect to Children Services.