ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES COMMISSIONER DAVID HANSELL JOINED BY NYPD AT FIRST ENHANCED CHILDSTAT HEARING

Restructured CHILD-STAT model emphasizes weekly, rigorous review and deep analysis of critical performance data; focus on accountability at all levels

New York, NY – Today, the New York City Administration for Children's Services (ACS) Commissioner David Hansell led the first session of the re-launched CHILD-STAT model at ACS' headquarters in Lower Manhattan.

Upon being appointed in February, Commissioner Hansell announced his reform vision for ACS, which included an in-depth review of ACS's protective functions and identification of opportunities for closer collaboration with the NYPD, including a deep review of CHILD-STAT to assess its effectiveness. At CHILD-STAT's re-launch, Commissioner Hansell was joined by Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services Dr. Herminia Palacio and NYPD.

"The CHILD-STAT model is vital to improving the functioning of ACS, and fine-tuning our policies and practices. As we re-launch CHILD-STAT, we will continue to modify and improve it as needed to ensure accountability and high-performance throughout our system," said **ACS Commissioner David Hansell**. "We will be rigorous and thorough in using data to improve our performance, with the goal of substantive reform."

"I commend Commissioner Hansell and ACS for launching this enhanced CHILD-STAT model, a critical management tool to support the agency's mission of protecting New York's children," said **Dr. Herminia Palacio, Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services.** "I thank Chief Boyce for lending his expertise to this effort and look forward to ACS's continued collaboration with NYPD as we work to keep children and families safe."

"In order to provide every one of our city's children with the care and attention they deserve, we must commit to strengthening the tools that enable rigorous oversight and accountability," said **Council Member Stephen Levin, Chair of the General Welfare Committee**. "A revitalized ChildStat will ensure robust management and assessment of crucial case data to ensure the health and well-being of our children. Reinvigorating ChildStat is key to future success -- that's why I have introduced legislation requiring a comprehensive approach to ChildStat will endure generations from now. I applaud Commissioner Hansell's leadership and I am ready to work with him to make continued progress."

CHILD-STAT, modeled after the NYPD's COMP-STAT, is an important tool in strengthening the agency's focus on performance accountability around child protection, and building a more unified culture of excellence across the agency. Chief Boyce met with Commissioner Hansell in February, and was subsequently appointed to advise CHILD-STAT, bringing with him vast operational experience on the 'STAT' model. Similarly, Commissioner Hansell has built a reputation as a proven manager with a data-driven focus on improving outcomes for vulnerable populations on the national, state and local levels.

Data presented during the CHILD-STAT meetings focuses on decreasing repeat maltreatment, with a specific focus on the highest-risk ACS families. Cases presented are randomly selected from a pool of high-risk active cases.

"I commend ACS Commissioner Hansell for his thoughtful restructuring of ChildStat to advance accountability and performance in the mission of protecting at-risk children. It is my belief that the CompStat approach to organizational management is highly valuable when adapted for use across the public sector, and nothing could be more important than getting these matters right in the agencies responsible for the safety and welfare of our most vulnerable," said **Brooklyn Borough President Eric L. Adams**.

"As I recently met with Commissioner Hansell, I am confident that he will help continue a vision of ACS that we all expect to see: putting families first in situations of crisis, not politicizing them as we often do. As a former ACS caseworker, I know firsthand that there are never enough tools those on the front lines of childcare can have, and ChildStat will be another to help them," said **State Senator Diane J. Savino**.

"ChildStat is all about the leadership at ACS knowing what is going on the front lines of ACS. Knowing key facts like caseloads. Knowing how the work is being done by real people in real neighborhoods. This is a good step forward, and I congratulate Commissioner Hansell and the Mayor on this important effort," said **former ACS Commissioner John Mattingly**.

"Childstat ensures that the public child protective agency's top staff, including the commissioner and deputies, review case practice and critical data weekly to ensure that risk and safety for NYC's children are being diligently managed. It is a critical tool to guide managers who are making complex decisions whether to remove children. Childstat also requires the agency's top brass to focus collectively and deliberately on staffing levels and other key metrics associated with maintaining a strong protective workforce. I applaud the agency's renewed commitment to this enormously effective model," said **JCCA Chief Executive Officer and former ACS Commissioner Ronald E. Richter**.

"It's fantastic news for the the City's children that Commissioner Hansell is committed to revitalizing and enhancing ChildStat. The ChildStat model is a vital tool in ensuring that safety decisions on the front line are consistently applied for all children. It also serves as a critical

support for staff making these decisions - the data component holds managers accountable for caseloads and metrics that measure workload and how policies are impacting outcomes," said **HeartShare St. Vincent's Services Executive Director, Dawn Saffayeh**.

The newly restructured ACS CHILD-STAT launched today features the following major components:

- An emphasis on weekly, rigorous review of randomly selected high risk cases, including ongoing investigations, and a deep analysis of critical performance data;

- Elevation of CHILD-STAT to include regular participation of executive leadership— Commissioner and senior ACS staff to demonstrate the priority placed on the process;

- A focus on accountability at all levels of the agency;

- Continuity from session to session to ensure that change results from each meeting; and

- Building a more unified culture of excellence in practice that reaches across the five boroughs;

The ACS Commissioner, First Deputy Commissioner, additional Deputy Commissioners, and the Senior Advisor for investigations will serve as panel members, posing questions for presenters.

CHILD-STAT meetings will broadcast to Borough Offices via closed-circuit video for Borough Commissioners and frontline staff to hear from their peers and facilitate a discussion regarding each meeting.

All members of the Commissioner's Executive Cabinet – both program and administrative – are expected to attend in person. At the conclusion of each ChildStat meeting, a summary of derived actions will be announced.

About the New York City Administration for Children's Services:

The Administration for Children's Services (ACS) protects and promotes safety and well-being of New York City's children and families by providing child welfare, juvenile justice, and early care and education services. In child welfare, ACS contracts with private nonprofit organizations to support and stabilize families at risk of a crisis through preventive services, and provides foster care services for children not able to safely remain at home. The recently released ACS' 2016 [Foster Care Blueprint](#) indicates a 25% increase of children achieving permanency through kinship guardianship and a 5% in adoption rates even as the overall number of children in foster care continued to decline, among other significant progress made to improve case practice and

outcomes for children and families in the foster care system. In juvenile justice, ACS manages and funds services including detention and placement, intensive community-based alternatives for youth, and support services for families. In early care and education, ACS coordinates and funds programs and vouchers for close to 100,000 children eligible for subsidized care.

For more information, please visit www.nyc.gov/acs

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