

Executive Director's Report

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Assistance and Title XIX (Medicaid) Targeted Case Management programs. The department not only met its own goals, but helped the other health and human service agencies reach theirs.

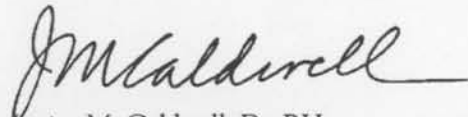
The additional funds also enabled us to offer for the first time in over three years—achievement bonuses to 25 percent of our most outstanding and productive employees.

In fiscal year 1994, Child-care Licensing staff proposed revisions to upgrade the minimum standards for licensed day-care facilities followed by a public comment and review period. In March 1994, the Board approved the proposed revisions for publication in the Texas Register. The proposed revisions represent the first major upgrade of day-care standards since 1985.

The PRS Mission Statement addresses our commitment to “promoting full partnership with all stakeholders.” I am pleased with the efforts of staff and others to develop successful partnerships. I am grateful for the wonderful response from those who share our concerns and wish to join with us in making a difference in the lives of those we serve. Their contributions of time, labor, money, and materials make possible what we could not do alone.

Among the many things I envision for this agency is that it represent all the people we serve. As stated in our Agency Mission Statement, PRS is committed to “providing services that respect the diversity of Texas citizens reflected in differing values, cultures, beliefs, economic status, and geographic location.” To help bring this about, a cross-cultural group of employees is taking a careful look at minority-related issues and considering ways to recruit more minority parents for foster care and adoption, hire more minority staff, and review program policies from a minority perspective.

In June 1994, PRS staff developed the department's first strategic plan. As our statewide vision, we embraced the following: “We envision a Texas where all people have the skills and opportunities they need to achieve their individual dreams; a Texas where people enjoy good health, feel safe and secure from harm, and share a quality standard of living; a Texas where we and future generations can enjoy our bounteous natural beauty and resources.” This may sound like the impossible dream, but I believe that keeping our sights fixed on this lofty ideal will help all of us in our efforts to tackle the difficult problems our state faces today.



Janice M. Caldwell, Dr. P.H.
Executive Director