



the  
reality  
of  
*abuse & neglect*

## TRENDS REPORT SUMMARY

The number of children's protective services (CPS) complaints received was 123,149 in Fiscal Year (FY) 2007. Even though slightly fewer cases were assigned for investigation as compared to 126,690 in 2006, a higher percentage of investigated cases was confirmed (i.e., a preponderance of evidence of abuse and/or neglect was found). A summary of 2007 data includes:

- Complaints Investigations - 26% of investigations resulted in a finding of preponderance of evidence.
- Confirmed Investigations - There has been a decrease in the number of investigations (76,694 in 2004 to 67,756 in 2007), although a higher percentage of investigations were confirmed (23% in 2004, 25% in 2006, to 26% in 2007).
- Victims of Abuse Neglect by Race, Gender-
  - » 17,748 confirmed investigations with a total of 29,638 victims were identified (1.6 child victims per family).
  - » 51% of all victims were female, 49% male.
  - » 61% of all victims were white, 32% were African American, and 7% were Native American, Asian, Latino, and other undefined races.
  - » 32% were under the age of four.
  - » Of the 29,638 victims, 175 were victims in more than one incident.
- Perpetrators of Abuse Neglect -
  - » In approximately 90% of all cases the perpetrator is the parent.
  - » There are 1.3 perpetrators for every confirmed investigation.
- Reporting Sources of Complaints -
  - » Law enforcement represents the largest source of complaints filed by mandated reporters, at 23%.
  - » The largest non-mandated reporting source is defined as "anonymous" at 22% followed closely by relatives at 18%.