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GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
LANSING



ISMAEL AHMED
DIRECTOR

February 26, 2010

The Honorable Bill Hardiman, Chair
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on DHS
State Capitol
Lansing, Michigan 48933

The Honorable Dudley Spade, Chair
House Appropriations Subcommittee on DHS
State Capitol
Lansing, Michigan 48933

Dear Senator Hardiman and Representative Spade:

Section 583 of Public Act 129 of 2009 (Enrolled Senate Bill No. 248) requires the Department of Human Services to report on the number of individuals serving as foster parents during the previous fiscal year who dropped out of the program, including data on the primary reasons that foster parents chose to leave the program.

Please reference the attached chart and closure reasons which summarize this data.

If you have any questions, please contact Suzanne Stiles Burke, director, Bureau of Child Welfare at (517) 241-8606.

Sincerely,

Ismael Ahmed

cc: Senate and House Appropriations Subcommittees on DHS
Senate and House Committees on Family and Human Services
Senate and House Fiscal Agencies and Policy Officers
Senate Budget Director

Fiscal Year 2009 Foster Home Closures

Closure Reasons	Number of Closures
Administrative	105
Change of Facility Type	87
Change of License	3
Death of Licensee	13
Failure to Respond	264
Moved	37
Voluntary	1065
Total	1574

Definitions of Closure Reasons

Administrative Closure: This is used by the Bureau of Child and Adult Licensing (BCAL) when there is a problem with the license and a revocation, denial, or refusal to renew is not sought.

Change in Facility Type: When a foster home changes from a family home to a group home or from a group home to a family home, the license is closed and the new one is issued. Family homes have a capacity of 1-4 children and group homes have a capacity of 5-6 children.

Change of License: An adult household member either moves in or moves out of the licensed home and necessitates a change in the license.

Death of Licensee: Licensee is no longer alive.

Failure to Respond: The agency sends information regarding annual or renewal visits and the family does not respond to three notices and there are no children in the home. The agency documents the attempts to contact the family and uses the closing code "failure to respond" to close the license.

Moved: Licensee moved to a new location and no longer wants to be a foster parent and/or the new home is not suitable for licensure.

Voluntary: The licensee requests that the license be closed.