

JB Pritzker Governor

Marc D. Smith Acting Director

The Honorable J.B. Pritzker, Governor State of Illinois 207 State Capital Springfield, Illinois 62706

Dear Governor Pritzker:

The State Service Assurance Act, Public Act 95-707, passed in November 2008, requires each state agency to report to the General Assembly, annually their staffing level of bilingual employees.

Please find the enclosed report of bilingual employees currently employed by the Department of Children and Family Services. Establishing positions with multilingual options and incorporating multilingual skills into existing positions allows our agency to provide better services more effectively to our clients and the public. On June 30, 2007, the Department had 154 bilingual frontline staff. Therefore, it is required by the Act to maintain a bilingual staffing level of 194, 40 additional positions. However, the Department's number of bilingual staff on March 31, 2020 is 167. We have increased bilingual direct staff by 57 hires since April 1, 2019 thru March 31, 2020; this has been accomplished thru the diligent efforts of our recruitment staff. We are actively working to hire more bilingual frontline staff to come into compliance and meet the communication and service needs of the families we serve.

The Department is under the Burgos Consent Decree that requires that we provide services in Spanish to Spanish Speaking clients and families. We also comply with the Presidential Executive Order 13166 signed by President Bill Clinton that requires agencies receiving federal funds provide access to language services for all languages to clients.

Should you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Lourdes M. Rodriguez, Statewide Burgos Consent Decree/Inter Ethnic Placement Act/ Limited English Proficiency Monitor, Office of Affirmative Action at 312/808/-5264.

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