



# Commission on Improving the Status of Children in Indiana

## Executive Committee Members

Director Mary Beth Bonaventura  
*Indiana Dept. of Child Services*

Representative David Frizzell  
*District 93*

John R. Hammond, IV  
*Office of the Governor*

Senator Erin Houchin  
*District 47*

Hon. Loretta Rush  
*Chief Justice of Indiana*

## Commission Members

Dr. Jerome Adams, M.D.  
*Indiana State Health Commissioner*

Christine Blessinger  
*Executive Director,  
Indiana Dept. of Correction,  
Division of Youth Services*

Jason Dudich  
*Director, State Budget Agency*

Curtis Hill  
*Indiana Attorney General*

Senator Tim Lanane  
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*Executive Director,  
Indiana Public Defender Council*

Susan Lightfoot  
*Chief Probation Officer,  
Henry County*

Jennifer McCormick  
*Indiana Superintendent  
of Public Instruction*

Kevin Moore  
*Director, Division of  
Mental Health Addiction*

David Powell  
*Executive Director, Indiana  
Prosecuting Attorneys Council*

Representative Vanessa Summers  
*District 99*

Dr. Jennifer Walthall, M.D.  
*Secretary, Family and Social  
Services Administration*

Mary Willis  
*Chief Administrative Officer,  
Indiana Supreme Court*

## Children's Commission Releases Annual Report

**JUNE 26, 2017** - The annual report for the Commission on Improving the Status of Children in Indiana is [available online](#). The 19-page report is a window into the collaborative work being done across all three branches of government to improve the lives of Hoosier children—especially the most vulnerable.

The 18-member Commission developed the [report](#), which includes:

- A new [three-year strategic plan](#), which recognizes four priorities: Child Safety and Services; Juvenile Justice and Cross System Youth; Mental Health and Substance Abuse; and Educational Outcomes.
- Details on recommendations regarding HEA 1369 (innovative juvenile justice programs).
- The development of an iOS and Android [information sharing guide mobile app](#) from a 204-page white paper about records related to children.
- Information about the Commission's seven task forces and committees: Child Services Oversight Committee; Communications Committee; Data Sharing and Mapping Committee; Child Safety and Services Task Force; Educational Outcomes Task Force; Juvenile Justice & Cross-System Youth Task Force; and the Mental Health & Substance Abuse Task Force.

Established by Governor Pence in August 2013, the multi-branch Commission aims to improve the status of children in Indiana. In cooperation with other entities, it studies issues concerning vulnerable youth; reviews and makes recommendations concerning pending legislation; and promotes information sharing and best practices. The Commission's next meetings are August 16 and November 8.

For more information, contact a member of the Commission's Communication Committee: [Jeremy Brilliant](#) (ATG), [Kristin Casper](#) (PDC), [Kathryn Dolan](#) (ISC), [Jim Gavin](#) (FSSA), [Isaac Randolph](#) (DOC), or [James Wide](#) (DCS).