



## THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES EDUCATION AND LICENSURE SECTION INTERNSHIP PROGRAM



The DCFS Internship program contributes to the recruitment, training and retention of its staff through the following programs:

- Title IV-E, Los Angeles, DCFS Stipend Program
- Title IV-E, CalSWEC Program
- BSW Internship Program
- Employee Educational Work Release Program (EEWRP) for DCFS Employees

### Program Mission

The DCFS Internship Program aims to enhance the professional development and skills of staff; and improve the quality of services and outcomes for children and families served by DCFS by providing educational opportunities and learning experiences to MSW/BSW interns whose coursework is consistent with public child welfare practice standards and enhance staff skills and practice behavior.

### Program Goals

- **Enhance the professional skills of DCFS permanent staff by expanding the number of Children Social Workers (CSW's), Supervising Children's Social Workers (SCSW's), and Managers who hold a degree in social work.** Employees return from their studies with a broader knowledge base and a higher skill level to provide child welfare service in clinical casework practice or administrative services.
- **Improve the quality and outcomes of services provided to children and families by DCFS through its affiliation with social work education.** As a field placement agency, DCFS has greater access to innovative practice methods and information regarding trends and research findings in social work. The UCLA training contract includes research findings on the results of DCFS' internship collaborative internship program.
- **To interest MSW and BSW students in public child welfare services as a career option.** By offering stipends through the Title IV-E stipends, requiring a work commitment, DCFS is able to attract and hire the most capable children's social work candidates, particularly those with bilingual/multicultural skills to strengthen DCFS' workforce. The field experience develops a cadre of prospective employees who are already familiar with DCFS services and prepared to do the work of public child welfare (PCW), thereby helping to increase work force, job retention and job satisfaction that produces quality outcomes in alignment with the mission and vision of the Department.