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Commission on Improving *the* Status *of* Children in Indiana

Children's Commission reaches 5-year mark, annual report shows focus on helping vulnerable youth

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The <u>annual report</u> for the Commission on Improving the Status of Children in Indiana is available online at <u>www.in.gov/children</u>. The report details collaboration among all three branches of government working to improve the lives of Hoosier children, especially the most vulnerable.

The 18-member Commission, which hired its first executive director one year ago, concentrates on four strategic priorities: Child Safety and Services, Juvenile Justice and Cross-System Youth, Mental Health and Substance Abuse, and Educational Outcomes. The report includes:

- Evidence of progress on Commission strategic priorities
- Details on Commission actions, such as legislative recommendations
- Results of strengthening relationships with 140 Commission volunteers
- Continued success and promotion of the information sharing guide and app

Established in August 2013, the Commission studies issues concerning vulnerable youth; reviews and makes recommendations concerning pending legislation; and promotes information sharing and best practices. The Commission's next meeting is October 17 and is open to the public.