

**DCFS Service Intervention Division**  
**Alcohol and other Drug Abuse Services**

Alcohol and other drug abuse (AODA) staff are responsible for developing substance abuse policies and programs to address the needs of DCFS involved substance affected families.

- ❖ *Management of the substance abuse prevention and treatment system for DCFS clients (both parents and children). This includes:*
  - Coordinating assessment, treatment and support services with the Division of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse in the Department of Human Services, substance abuse prevention and treatment providers, and DCFS and POS staff;
  - Providing technical assistance as needed to resolve system coordination and access to care issues; and
  - Developing, implementing, monitoring, and evaluating policies and systems.
  - Providing technical assistance and consultation to department and private agency child welfare staff serving substance affected families
  - Coordination and oversight of Department funded AODA services
  
- ❖ *Management of the Department's substance abuse Title IV-E waiver project. This includes:*
  - Recovery Coaches to provide intensive AODA outreach and case management services to families assigned to the demonstration group. The Recovery Coaches are employed by an independent agency to help ensure continuity of services when the client changes treatment providers, while also remaining an objective advocate for the client and entire family throughout the treatment process.
  - Coordination of AODA services and providing intensive home-based outreach and engagement opportunities throughout the life of their DCFS case.
  - Enhanced reporting to the caseworker and the courts on a parent's progress in treatment on a monthly basis and on the prospects for reunification prior to the permanency hearing.
  
- ❖ *Management of the Intact Family Recovery Program (IFR), a Department project that provides child welfare and AOD services to intact families in Cook County; clients are referred after a substance exposed infant has been delivered and an allegation of substance misuse has been indicated by DCP. The program also serves DCFS involved pregnant and parenting teens with identified substance abuse problems. The program includes:*
  - Teaming POS child welfare case managers and AOD outreach workers in providing comprehensive services during the recovery process.
  - Coordinating assessments, treatment and support services, e.g., WIC, TANF and Public Health.
  - Utilizing Department staff as liaisons to monitor and provide technical assistance to agencies providing direct service; weekly clinical staffings are held.