

NCJFCJ 67th ANNUAL CONFERENCE
JULY 18 - 21, 2004
Portland, Oregon

No. 3

**Resolution In Support Of
Health and Human Services
Program Improvement Plans**

WHEREAS, the Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) findings have been made for all fifty states, the District of Columbia and the U.S. Virgin Islands; and

WHEREAS, the Program Improvement Plans (PIP) developed by each state and territory must improve the systems used for the safety of children; and

WHEREAS, the Adoption and Safe Families Act (ASFA) has strongly designated the Courts as the monitor for the permanency, safety, well-being and outcomes for children; and

WHEREAS, there is a need for the involvement of Courts and Judges to be included in the PIP development process; and

WHEREAS, the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges seeks the Federal Government to provide mandate to the states to include Courts and Judges in this process by giving them a "seat at the table" to be closely involved in the process.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the NCJFCJ urges the Children's Bureau of the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services to notify all states and their agency directors in writing that the Courts and Judges be included in all stages of the development process for the PIP in each state.

Adopted this 21st day of July, 2004
By the Membership Assembled in Conference
In Portland, Oregon