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Joyce James to Receive Child Welfare Award

WASHINGTON, April 1, 2009—Joyce James, deputy commissioner of the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, will receive the 2008 Betsey R. Rosenbaum Award at the National Association of Public Child Welfare Administrators' spring conference in Washington. NAPCWA is an affiliate of the American Public Human Services Association.

The award is given annually to an administrator of a state or local public child welfare agency who demonstrates leadership by modeling policies and practices that advance achievement of positive outcomes for children and families at the national level. NAPCWA is a membership organization that represents child welfare administrators of city, county and state public human service agencies. These agencies provide child abuse prevention, family preservation and family support, child protection, foster care, adoption and independent living services to children and families.

James has dedicated her professional career to advocating for children, youth, and families, increasing public awareness about the disproportionate number of African-American children in the child welfare system. She was selected as the DFPS deputy commissioner on Jan. 5, 2009. Previously, she served as the deputy commissioner/director of the Child Protective Services Program for the Texas DFPS. Her testimony during the Texas 79th legislative session contributed to the implementation of legislation requiring Health and Human Services Commission and DFPS to address disproportionality issues in the Texas CPS System.

The award will be given on Saturday, April 4, 2009, at The Fairmont Washington, D.C. during the awards reception.

About the APHSA

The American Public Human Services Association is a nonprofit, bipartisan organization of individuals and agencies concerned with human services. Its members include all state and territorial human service agencies, more than 150 local agencies, and several thousand individuals who work in or otherwise have an interest in human service programs. Its mission is to develop, promote and implement public human service policies and practices that improve the health and well-being of families, children and adults.