

Joyce James, LMSW-AP



Joyce James began her professional career as a Child Protective Services (CPS) caseworker in 1980 and has established an impressive 32-year history in the field of Child Welfare. She has been a strong advocate for children, youth, and families, and an influential voice in raising and increasing public awareness about Disproportionality in child welfare and other child and family serving systems.

Ms. James served as the Texas Child Welfare Director from 2004-2009 and also served as the Deputy Commissioner for Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) from January 2009- September 2010.

Ms. James is currently the Associate Deputy Executive Commissioner for the Center for Elimination of Disproportionality and Disparities at the Texas Health and Human Services Commission. She was appointed to this role in September 2010, by HHS Executive Commissioner Tom Suehs, placing this work at the highest level of Health and Human Services in Texas.