



State of Florida
Statewide Advocacy Council
Betty Busbee, Chair
Craig Rappel, Vice Chair
William E.C. Marvin, Executive Director



Dear Governor Bush, President King and Speaker Byrd:

I am pleased to join Craig Rappel, Esq., Statewide Advocacy Council Chair, and members of the Statewide and Local Advocacy Councils throughout the state in presenting this annual report. The report provides a review of the accomplishments, funding, areas of continued concern and our future commitment to serving Floridians.

This past year has been filled with many successes as a result of members intervening on behalf of citizens in need of our assistance. Local Advocacy Council members throughout the state monitored over 499 programs or facilities, and in several cases, Council visits initiated corrective action. The Local Advocacy Council's partnership with the Attorney General's Office in Operation Spot Check has proven to be most beneficial to the consumers. In the vast majority of situations the programs and services were determined to be beneficial to the consumers receiving them. The Statewide and Local Advocacy Councils spent a great deal of their time completing the report on Psychotropic Drug use in Foster Care. This report was released in July of 2003. The Council also participated in CAFÉ again by holding a workshop on clients appeal rights.

Our objective will be to continue to help all Floridians who feel that their rights have been violated and assist them in receiving those services in a safe and compassionate manner and with dignity. The Statewide and Local Advocacy Councils have had an excellent relationship with both Executive and the Legislative branches. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

William E. C. Marvin
Executive Director

