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SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGES ILLINOIS REBRANDS TO ONE FAMILY ILLINOIS

New Name Reflects Expanded Mission and Continued Commitment to the Well-being of Children and Families in the Foster Care System

CHICAGO—Today, SOS Children's Villages Illinois announced that the organization will operate under a new name, One Family Illinois, reflecting an evolved mission, independent status, and values centered on strengthening communities and keeping families together. This change marks a significant milestone in the over 30-year-old organization's commitment to the well-being of children and families in Illinois' foster care system.

In conjunction with the rebrand, One Family Illinois is thrilled to celebrate the recent graduation of all high school students in its programs, marking a **100%** graduation rate that is significantly higher than the state average of 56% for youth in traditional foster models. Also, Cook County recently announced a \$976,956 grant to One Family Illinois for its RiseUP program, a behavioral health intervention and family support initiative—strengthening and underscoring the organization's community commitment.

"I am so proud to announce our new 'One Family Illinois' name and logo reflecting the commitment we make every year to support over 300 children and youth in our care along with their families and communities," said **Delphine F. Rankin, Ed.D., Chief Executive Officer of One Family Illinois**. "Our program uniquely prioritizes keeping siblings together in single-family homes with licensed, loving foster parents and a strong network of community support. As we begin this new chapter in our organization's 40-year history as One Family Illinois, we will continue to deepen and expand our service to Illinois families and communities."

The new name underscores the organization's dedication to providing exceptional care to children and supporting their families—whether foster, adoptive or biological. One Family Illinois will continue to focus on keeping siblings together in foster care, nurturing co-parenting relationships between foster and biological parents, and facilitating family reunification.

"Keeping our kids healthy and thriving is the responsibility of everyone in the child welfare network and of all of us in Illinois," said **Heidi E. Mueller, Director, Illinois Department of Children and Family Services**. "Experts like the professional foster parents at One Family Illinois play a pivotal role in supporting families in crisis and helping our youth heal and thrive. For more than 30 years, One Family Illinois has been a trusted partner and I look forward to growing our relationship as we embark on this new chapter together."



One Family Illinois serves over 300 children and youth, and nearly 400 families in and around Chicago, and provides Family Supportive Services to families through various community programs, supports youth in care through the Norman/Youth Advocacy Housing Program, and assists families through various community programs.

“It’s a privilege to guide the Board of this extraordinary organization that provides safe, supportive and loving environments for the young people entrusted to us,” **said Theodore Weldon, Board President, One Family Illinois.** “The needs are great, and as One Family Illinois, we will continue our leadership role in supporting children and youth in the child welfare system.”

One Family Illinois' new name also represents a new era of strategic growth for the organization, including a renewed focus as an independent organization dedicated to making a positive impact in the community. The organization remains dedicated to delivering high-quality services to better meet the evolving needs of children and families in the community, including initiatives aimed at providing strong foundational support for families to thrive.

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About One Family Illinois:

One Family Illinois, formerly SOS Children’s Villages Illinois, is a child welfare organization dedicated to strengthening communities and keeping families together. The organization provides holistic support to children in foster care and their families, whether foster, adoptive or biological, ensuring a nurturing and stable environment for all. For more information about One Family Illinois and its programs, please visit Onefamilyillinois.org.