

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF OPERATIONS – Michael C. Williams

With over 25 years of progressive leadership in child welfare and behavioral health services, Michael C. Williams returns to DCF bringing a unique mixture of internal and external knowledge and experience. He is a graduate of Northeast Louisiana University of Monroe, University of Connecticut School of Social Work, Trinity College of Vermont, and the University of Connecticut's School of Business' Executive Program in Managed Care. He was CEO of Hartford Behavioral Health for 10 years, before joining DCF in 2003 as a Regional Administrator, then becoming Deputy Commissioner of Operations. As Deputy Commissioner, Mr. Williams led the design and implementation of the Child Protection Practice Model (including introducing the Differential Response System), reform strategy for the state's Juvenile Justice services, and a comprehensive statewide racial justice strategy, among many other initiatives. To complement these efforts, Mr. Williams is a very engaged member of his community. He is an appointed member to the State of Connecticut's Commission on Health Equity, serves as a board member of the Bloomfield Board of Education and Black Administrators of Child Welfare, is a current participant in the National Child Welfare Workforce Institute of the Leadership Academy of Deans and Directors, and a member of the Mayor's Cabinet for Young Children. Most recently, Mr. Williams stepped out of state service to become President and CEO of Our Kids, a provider in Miami-Dade/Monroe, Florida.