



REGULAR SESSION

March 25, 2008

A Regular Session of the Carver County Board of Commissioners was held in the County Government Center, Chaska, on March 25, 2008. Chair James Ische convened the session at 9:20 a.m.

Members present: James Ische, Chair, Tim Lynch, Vice Chair, Gayle Degler, Randy Maluchnik and Tom Workman.

Members absent: None.

The following amendment was made to the agenda:

Delete:

5.11 CSAH 10-negotiated settlements.

Degler moved, Lynch seconded, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

Workman moved, Maluchnik seconded, to approve the minutes of the March 11, 2008, Regular Session Motion carried unanimously.

Community announcements were made by the Board.

Lynch moved, Degler seconded, to approve the following consent agenda items:

Payment of emergency claim in the amount of \$875.

Set April 29, 2008, at 2:30 p.m. as the date and time for the opening of the Carver County 2008 County State Aid Highway Bituminous Resurfacing Project and authorized the County Administrator and the County Engineer, or their delegated representative, to open said bids.

Set April 29, 2008 at 2:30 p.m. as the date and time for the opening of the Carver County 2008 County Road Bituminous Resurfacing Project and authorized the County Administrator and the County Engineer, or their delegated representative, to open said bids.

Accepted all quotes received for Carver County Project No. 0803-metal culverts and corrugated polyethylene pipe.

Awarded Carver County Project No. 0804, mineral aggregates, to Wm. Mueller & Sons, Inc. and Knife River Corporation.

Awarded Carver County Project No. 0805, limestone rock, to Bryan Rock Products.

Awarded Carver County Project No. 0806, plant mixed asphalt, to Wm. Mueller & Sons, Inc., and Knife River Corporation.

Awarded Carver County Project No. 0807, rock salt, to Cargill, Inc.

Awarded Carver County Project No. 0808, application of reflectorized pavement markings, to Traffic Marking Service.

Accepted all quotations received for Carver County Project No. 0809, rental equipment.

Inmate boarding agreement with McLeod County.

2008 police service contract with Clearwater Middle School in addition to hiring .30 FTE and related Sheriff's budget amendment increasing police contract revenue \$31,884 and increasing salaries \$31,884.

Authorized the Chair to sign the grant agreement with the MN Pollution Control Agency to implement Fecal TMDL's and approved Land and Water Services budget amendment increasing MPCA fecal TMDL grant revenue \$300,000 and increasing salaries \$30,000 and SWCD expenses \$270,000.

Approved the conveyance of County owned land to four homeowners to provide access to Pioneer Trail and approved land registration action to correct the unknown ownership land issue.

Community Social Services' actions.

Approved payment of the following Commissioners' warrants:

INSERT

Motion carried unanimously.

David Frischmon, Finance Director, requested the Board adopt a Resolution denying the imposition of transit taxes. He explained the Legislature recently authorized the seven metro counties to impose a one quarter percent sales taxes for the development and operation of transitways. He indicated discussion has occurred in the seven counties and counties have been asked to decide by April 1<sup>st</sup> whether they wish to implement the tax. Frischmon stated the transit tax cannot be used for roads and bridges but could be used for capital and park and rides. He indicated they have not found a direct benefit for Carver County taxpayers and recognized the Board's concern with raising taxes in difficult economic times.

The Board acknowledged the current economic difficulties, the limited benefits to Carver County and the input they received from residents.

Degler offered the following Resolution, seconded by Lynch:

Resolution #34-08  
Denying the Imposition of Transit Taxes

On vote taken, all vote aye.

David Hemze, County Administrator, requested the Board adopt a Resolution supporting legislation to transfer certain authorities of the Library Board to the County Board. He pointed out the County's 2008 Legislative Platform included proposed legislation to transfer policy authority to the County Board.

Hemze stated he has discussed initial concerns with the Library Board. He explained they have worked through those issues and he has received the support of the Library Board. He pointed out the summary of the legislation and the Resolution that included additional detail.

Workman offered the following Resolution, seconded by Lynch:

Resolution #35-08  
Resolution to Support Special Legislation Transferring Certain  
Authorities of the Carver County Library Board to the Carver County Board

On vote taken, all voted aye.

Workman moved, Degler seconded, to adjourn the Regular Session at 9:41 a.m. to go into a work session with Land and Water Services. Motion carried unanimously.

David Hemze  
County Administrator

(These proceedings contain summaries of resolutions. The full text of the resolutions are available for public inspection in the office of the county administrator.)





# REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

**AGENDA ITEM:** Charitable Gambling Application for Zoar United Church of Christ

Originating Division: Property Records Taxpayer Services Meeting Date 04/01/2008  
 Amount of Time Requested: 0 minutes Attachments for packet:  Yes  No  
 Item Type:  Consent  Regular Session  Closed Session  Work Session  Ditch/Rail Authority

**BACKGROUND/EXPLANATION OF AGENDA ITEM:** Charitable gambling application was received from Zoar United Church of Christ. They want to hold a raffle on Saturday, October 11, 2008, at Zoar United Church of Christ, 7030 Highway 212, Chaska, MN 55318.

**ACTION REQUESTED:** See attached resolution.

**FUNDING**

County Dollars = \$  
 Other Sources & Amounts = \$  
 TOTAL = \$

**FISCAL IMPACT**

None  
 Included in current budget  
 Budget amendment requested  
 Other:

Related Financial Comments:

Reviewed by Laurie Engelen, Taxpayer Services Manager

Date: 3-17-08

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
CARVER COUNTY, MINNESOTA**

DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
MOTION BY COMMISSIONER \_\_\_\_\_

RESOLUTION NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_  
SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER \_\_\_\_\_

**APPROVAL OF CHARITABLE GAMBLING LICENSE  
Zoar United Church of Christ**

WHEREAS, the Zoar United Church of Christ seeks approval of a charitable gambling license; and

WHEREAS, the Zoar United Church of Christ will hold the raffle at the Zoar United Church of Christ located at 7030 Hwy 212, Chaska, MN; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Department of Gaming requires the County Board of Commissioners to specifically approve or deny a resolution for each applicant for each application.

NOW, THEREFOR BE IT RESOLVED, the Carver County Board of Commissioners does approve the renewal of said license upon compliance with Code of Ordinance, Title XI, Chapter 112, Section 112.02.

| YES   | ABSENT | NO    |
|-------|--------|-------|
| _____ | _____  | _____ |
| _____ | _____  | _____ |
| _____ | _____  | _____ |
| _____ | _____  | _____ |
| _____ | _____  | _____ |

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
COUNT OF CARVER

I, David Hemze, duly appointed and qualified County Administrator of the County of Carver, State of Minnesota, do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing copy of this resolution with the original minutes of the proceeding of the Board of County Commissioners, Carver County, Minnesota, at its session held on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, now on file in the Administration office, and have found the same to be true and correct copy thereof.

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
David Hemze, Carver County Administrator



# REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

## AGENDA ITEM: Living Rock Church - Request for Large Scale Activity - Church Facility

Originating Division: Land & Water Services

Meeting Date: April 1, 2008

Amount of Time Requested: None

Attachments for packet:  Yes  No

Item Type:  Consent  Regular Session  Closed Session  Work Session  Ditch/Rail Authority

### BACKGROUND/EXPLANATION OF AGENDA ITEM:

File #PZ20080004. The Planning Commission recommended approval of the Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for Living Rock Church. Living Rock Church has a purchase agreement on an approxiamte 16 acres building site, which is located in Section 16, Young America Township. The request (**Phase 1**) is to allow the applicant to remodel and utilize two (2) existing buildings as office space and a meeting place for various church events. Future plans (**Phase 2**) would include the construction of a church building, parking areas and increased church activities. Any plans (**Phase 2**) to enlarge the facility, will require the applicant to apply and receive a new amended CUP. Currently, the church has three (3) full-time employees and two (2) part-time employees. Over the next 5 years, the church could possibly add as many as two (2) more full-time employees and four (4) part-time employees. Business hours are Tuesday - Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; however, night church meetings may occur. The Permittee must comply with the local road authority access requirements and/or improvements, if any. As part of the Phase 1 activities, an appropriate gravel parking area will need to be developed, and the existing driveway widened to accommodate passing vehicles. Phase 2 activities would take place once the property has been paid for and the church has the financial means to build the campus plan. The Young America Town Board recommended approval of the request.

### ACTION REQUESTED:

A motion tp adopt the Findings of Fact and to issue Order #PZ20080004 for the issuance of a Conditional Use Permit.

### FUNDING

County Dollars = \$-0-

Other Sources & Amounts = -0-

= \$

**TOTAL** = \$-0-

*Related Financial Comments:*

### FISCAL IMPACT

None

Included in current budget

Budget amendment requested

Other:

Reviewed by Division Director

Date:

COUNTY OF CARVER  
***PLANNING COMMISSION RESOLUTION***

**FILE #: PZ20080004**

**RESOLUTION #: 08-05**

**WHEREAS**, the following application for a Conditional Use Permit has been submitted and accepted:

**FILE #:** PZ20080004

**APPLICANT:** Living Rock Church – Sheldon Sorensen

**OWNER:** Robert & Audrey Tanke

**SITE ADDRESS:** 17125 Co Rd 31

**PERMIT TYPE:** Church

**PURSUANT TO:** County Code, Chapter 152, Section 152.080 C2

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION:** See attached Exhibit "A"

**PARCEL #:** 11-016-0500

**WHEREAS**, said application was duly considered at a public hearing held by the Carver County Planning Commission at its regular meeting of March 18, 2008; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Carver County Planning Commission finds as follows:

1. The applicant, Living Rock Church, is interested in purchasing an approximate 16 acre parcel from Mr. and Mrs. Robert Tanke. The property is improved with a home, several agricultural structures, wooded grove and pasture area. The property is located in the South Half (S½) of Sections 16, Young America Township. The site is located in the Agricultural Zoning District, Agricultural Preservation Program and the CCWRMA – Bevens Creek.
2. The applicant is requesting approval of a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) in order to operate a Large Scale Activity - Church Facility, pursuant to Section 152.080 C2 of the Carver County Zoning Code.
3. Sheldon Sorensen, applicant on behalf of Living Rock Church, has a purchase agreement in place with Robert & Audrey Tanke, to purchase an existing building site of approximately 16 acres. A legal survey has not been performed, but will be conducted prior to the purchase of the property. The Conditional Use Permit would allow the applicant to remodel and use two (2) existing buildings as office space and a meeting place for various church events. Future plans would include the construction of a church building, parking areas and increased church activities. However, at this time the applicant is only looking for approval of the remodeling and use of two (2) existing buildings. Any future plans to enlarge the facility, will require the applicant to apply and receive a new Conditional Use Permit.
4. If the Conditional Use Permit request is granted, the applicant would then submit the necessary application information for the minor subdivision. The minor subdivision would be required in order to split the approximate 16 acre building site off from the remainder of the property. The remainder of the property (approximately 82 acres) would still maintain the agricultural preservation status; however, the newly created (approximate 16 acre) parcel would be exempt from the agricultural preservation program. The property has an existing home which utilizes one (1) building eligibility.



5. Development of the site will be done in phases, with the first phase consisting of the remodeling of two (2) existing buildings, the house as their church office space and the Lester structure as a meeting place for different church events. They would also like to use the land and remodeled building for church events like picnics, bonfires, paintball games or other church activities. During the Phase 1 activities, Living Rock Church will not be holding Sunday church services at this site; however, special event services may take place on occasion. The church is currently utilizing one of the existing schools in Norwood Young America for their church services.
6. According to the applicants operational plan, during **Phase 1** of the operation on regular days they would expect 10-15 car trips per day, and on Wednesday nights or other scheduled meeting times, or on days of special events there would be as many as 100 car trips and as they grow, even more. The office hours are Tuesday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Currently the church has three (3) full-time employees and two (2) part-time, but over the next five years they could possibly add as many as two (2) more full-time and four (4) part-time employees. The operational hours would typically follow a traditional church schedule. Worship services, weddings, meetings, and activities would also occur during the week and on Saturdays. The only large items stored on the property would be for two (2) church vans, and a trailer. Each employee and/or visitor to the office would have a car. During the first phase, the church will not have a paving parking lot, but rather would use the existing driveway and surrounding areas for parking. An appropriate gravel parking area will need to be developed as shown on the site plan, and the existing driveway widened.
7. According to the applicants operational plan, during **Phase 2** of the operation the church would construct a church building, driveway improvements, bituminous parking areas, new well, new on-site sewage treatment system and stormwater retention system. Phase 2 would be started once the property has been paid for and the church has the financial means to build the campus plan, as the use of the property would greatly increase. The business hours would remain the same, but on Sundays and Wednesday nights, the prime church times, they would have hundreds of people visiting the site. The current Sunday morning attendance is between three and four hundred; however, as the surrounding communities grow the future attendance could have up to a thousand people on any given Sunday. Based on those future projections the church could anticipate as many as 800 car trips on any given Sunday. Future plans (next ten years) for the site also include a daycare or preschool, which would increase the amount of traffic generated to and from the site.
8. The applicant has indicated that the church is proposing to construct two (2) illuminated signs that are visible from Highway 212 and County Road 31. Any signage will comply with the Carver County Sign Ordinance.
9. Upon the request for a building permit for each structure, parking capacity will be reviewed to ensure that the appropriate number of spaces are provided according to the parking requirements of the Zoning Code.
10. Access to the site is off of County Road 31. The applicant will need to comply with the local road authority access requirements and/or improvements, if required.
11. The Young America Town Board reviewed and recommended approval of the Church request at their February 2008 Town Board meeting.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT** The Carver County Planning Commission hereby recommends the issuance of Conditional Use Permit #PZ20080004 for a Large Scale Activity – Church on the land described in Exhibit “A” of the permit application. The Planning Commission further recommends that the following conditions be attached to the permit:

1. The Permittee must submit and receive approval of a minor subdivision application prior to the issuance of CU-PZ20080004. A Minor Subdivision application including, but not limited to, a survey and on-site compliance must be submitted and approved prior to the recording of any deed. The existing residence shall not be utilized as two (2) dwelling units. The residence shall not be converted to separate rental units and an additional address is strictly prohibited. The church property has one (1) building eligibility which is currently utilized by the existing home.

2. The permit is subject to administrative review. A change in ownership, operations or operator shall be cause for the permit to be reviewed by Land Management for a determination as to whether an application for an amendment or similar consideration is necessary. Proposed owners and/or operators are encouraged to contact Land Management as early on in the timeline of the proposed change as possible.
3. The operation shall be in accordance with the submitted operational plan (letter dated: 2/7/08) and site plan (map dated: 2/7/08). These plans shall be attached to and become part of this permit. This Large Scale activity conditional use permit request only allows for activities described as part of Phase 1. Phase 2 of the Large Scale activity will require an amendment as the size and/or scope of the operation intensifies. Phase 1 will also require the church to widen the existing driveway and provide an appropriate parking area on site.
4. The operational hours would typically follow a traditional church schedule. Worship services, weddings, meetings, and activities would also occur during the week and on Saturdays.
5. The Permittee must comply with the local road authority access requirements and/or improvements, if any.
6. Any grading and/or filling activity on the property shall be completed in accordance with the Carver County Water Management guidelines and the Wetland Conservation Act (WCA).
7. Permittee shall comply at all times with the County standards as detailed in Chapter 152 – Zoning Code and Chapter 154 – Sign Regulations. These regulations include, but are not limited to, standards for parking and signage. Parking capacity must meet requirements of the Zoning Code as each building permit is requested.
8. All necessary and required building and/or demolition permits must be applied for and issued prior to construction. All structures utilized as part of the church facility shall meet the applicable State Building Code requirements. Additional expansion of the church facility and church functions shall not be allowed without an amendment to this permit.
9. Parking of vehicles must occur on the church property. No parking will be allowed along County Road 31 or Hwy 212.
10. Any existing drain tile(s) on the site must be maintained and/or re-routed, such that flow through the property is not hindered or adversely altered.
11. Permittee shall submit a copy of the Certificate of Workers' Compensation Insurance or sign an appropriate affidavit regarding employee status and submit it to the Land Management Department.

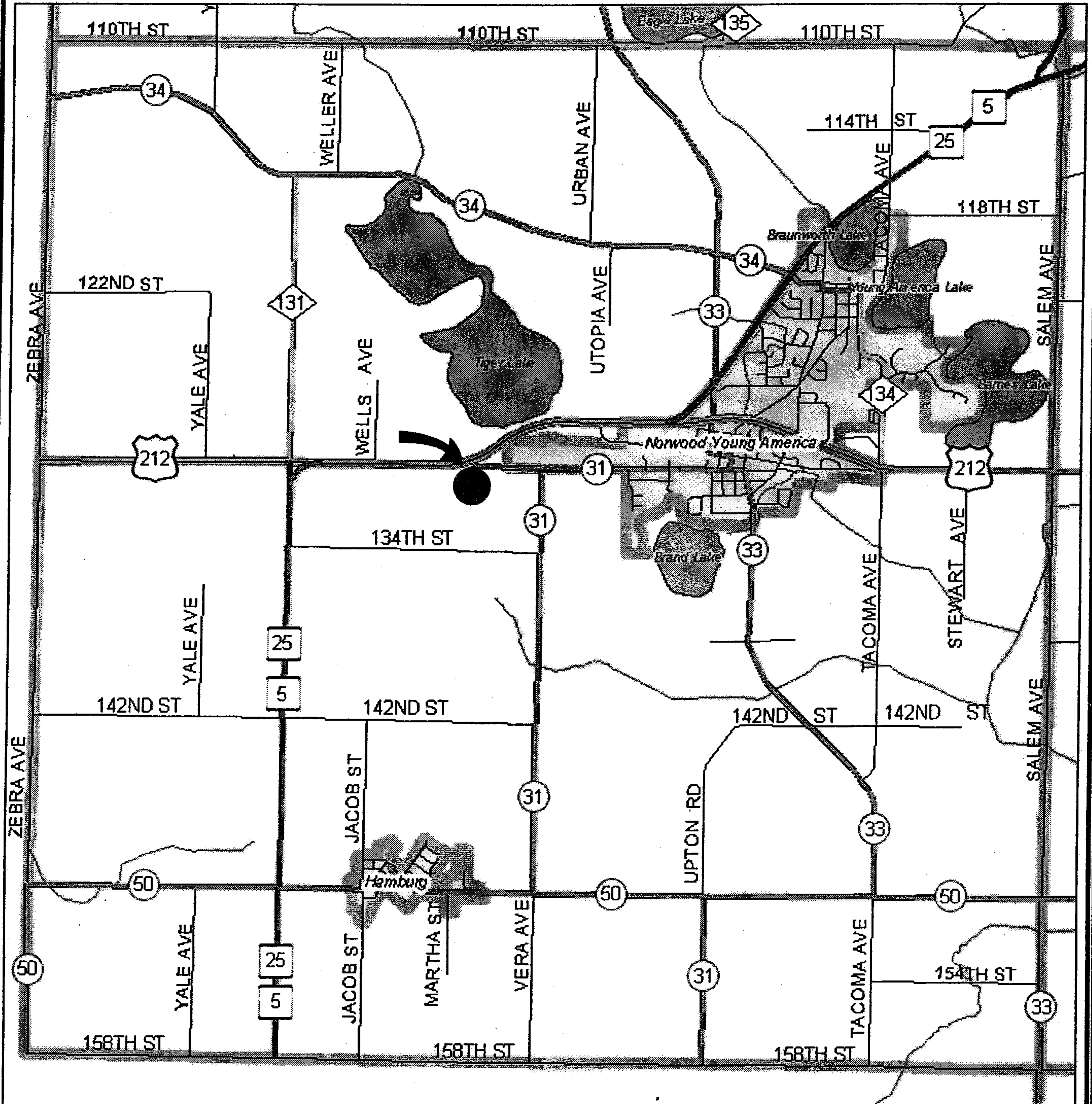
**ADOPTED** by the Carver County Planning Commission this 18<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2008.

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Ted Beise  
Planning Commission Chair



# Young America Township



This map was created using Carver County's Geographic Information Systems (GIS). It is a compilation of information and data from various City, County, State, and Federal offices. This map is not a surveyed or legally recorded map and is intended to be used as a reference. Carver County is not responsible for any inaccuracies contained herein.



Map Created by Carver County GIS  
Apr 21, 2005



# REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

## AGENDA ITEM : Robert Drews – Request for a Contractor’s Yard

Originating Division: Land & Water Services

Meeting Date: April 1, 2008

Amount of Time Requested: None

Attachments for packet:  Yes  No

Item Type:  Consent  Regular Session  Closed Session  Work Session  Ditch/Rail Authority

### BACKGROUND/EXPLANATION OF AGENDA ITEM:

File #PZ20080005. The Planning Commission recommended approval of the Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for Robert Drews. The request is to operate a Contractor’s Yard (concrete business) from a property he currently has a purchase agreement in Section 29, Camden Township. The property is 5.84 acres, which was created in 2001, as part of a minor subdivision and has one (1) building eligibility. The applicant would like to build a 50’ x 80’ (4,000 sq. ft.) structure for cold storage for commercial vehicles and equipment. Some supplies and/or equipment would be kept in an outside storage area, which is tucked back into the wooded area west of the proposed building location. The business employs six (6) employees and one (1) driver in addition to the owners of the business. All employees typically report directly to the job site. Employees will not be performing work duties at the property; however, employees will have access to the site to pickup supplies and/or equipment. Hours of operation are typically 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (Monday – Friday), and 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (Saturday). The permittee must comply with the local road authority access requirements and/or improvements, if any. Mr. Drews will need to construct single family dwelling on the property and homestead prior to the issuance of the CUP. The Camden Town Board recommends approval of the request.

### ACTION REQUESTED:

A motion to adopt the Findings of Fact and to issue Order #PZ20080005 for the issuance of a Conditional Use Permit.

### FUNDING

County Dollars = \$-0-  
Other Sources & Amounts = -0-  
= \$  
**TOTAL** = \$-0-

### FISCAL IMPACT

None  
 Included in current budget  
 Budget amendment requested  
 Other:

Related Financial Comments:

Reviewed by Division Director

Date:



COUNTY OF CARVER  
***PLANNING COMMISSION RESOLUTION***

**FILE #: PZ20080005**

**RESOLUTION #: 08-04**

**WHEREAS**, the following application for a Conditional Use Permit has been submitted and accepted:

**FILE #:** PZ20080005

**APPLICANT:** Robert Drews

**OWNER:** Vernon Shoutz

**SITE ADDRESS:** 102XX Co Rd 33

**PERMIT TYPE:** Contractors Yard

**PURSUANT TO:** County Code, Chapter 152, Section 152.079 C10

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION:** See attached Exhibit "A"

**PARCEL #:** 02-029-0721

**WHEREAS**, said application was duly considered at a public hearing held by the Carver County Planning Commission at its regular meeting of March 18, 2008; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Carver County Planning Commission finds as follows:

1. The applicant, Robert Drews (Drews Concrete, Inc.) is interested in purchasing a 5.84 acre parcel from Vernon Shoutz. The property is located in the Southeast Quarter (SE¼) of the Southeast Quarter (SE¼) of Sections 29, Camden Township. The parcel was created in 2001, as part of a minor subdivision and has one (1) building eligibility. The site is located in the Agricultural Zoning District and the CCWRMA – Crow River.
2. The applicant is requesting approval of a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) in order to operate a Contractor's Yard (concrete business), pursuant to Section 152.079 C10 of the Carver County Zoning Code.
3. The applicant's request appears to meet the standards for a Contractor's Yard. Mr. and Mrs. Drews would like to purchase the property, construct a home for their family and operate a small concrete and masonry business that is currently located in Prior Lake, MN. The business would operate from 6:00 am to 6:00 pm (Monday through Friday), and 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (Saturday). Currently, there are six (6) employees and one (1) driver in addition to Mr. and Mrs. Drews. All employees typically report directly to the job site. Employees will not be performing work duties at the property; however, employees will have access to the site to pickup supplies and/or equipment. The new gravel lot would allow for parking and outside storage, if needed.
4. The Zoning Code clearly states there needs to be a single-family home on the parcel occupied as a homestead by a principal of the activity; or a single-family home will be constructed or homesteaded before the CUP for the activity is issued; therefore, Mr. & Mrs. Drews will need to construct a single-family home prior to the issuance of CU-PZ20080005.
5. The applicant would like to construct a 50' x 80' (4,000 sq. ft.) storage building which will be utilized for cold storage of business vehicles, equipment and supplies which include; bobcat, frost blankets, lumber, cement mixers, trailers, etc. The applicant is not at this time proposing to heat, have a water supply and/or have a restroom located within the structure. The main purpose of the structure is to store equipment and supplies. The applicant has contacted Dean Mau, building official specializing in commercial structures. The applicant is aware that any proposed commercial structure will need to meet State Building Code.

6. The applicants operational plan, explains that the business utilizes two (2) sets of aluminum forms which are moved from job site to job site. If the forms are not being used they will be stored on the property outside behind the proposed commercial structure. The applicant has located a specific spot to store the forms in an enclosed wooded area. The aluminum forms are moved by a boom truck which is stored at Truck Repair in Inver Grove Heights. The reason the truck is parked there is because they service the truck at night. The operation consists of three (3) 1-ton trucks that employees drive and park at their home residence. To meet the screening requirement of the County Code, the applicant plans to utilize the proposed structure and the existing woods. However, if future issues occur they will be required to plant evergreens or install fencing in the areas of concern according to the County Code requirements.
7. The number of trips generated to the site by the business (employees other than owner) will be approximately two (2) per week, on average. The applicant has indicated that one week there could be 2-3 trips and the next 2-3 weeks there could be no trips generated. The applicant will need to comply with the local road authority access requirements and/or improvements, if required.
8. The site plan describes a future 50' x 100' accessory structure in the northeasterly portion of the property. The applicant has no idea as to when the structure will be constructed or whether it will be for constructed for either personal or commercial storage; therefore, at that time the property owner will need to apply for a conditional use permit.
9. The applicant is not proposing any signage for the business; however, signage is allowed pursuant to the Carver County Sign Ordinance. Customers will very rarely access the site due to the need for the applicant to view the potential job sites.
10. The applicant will need to contact the Carver County Environmental Services Department in regard to a Hazardous Waster Generator's License. A determination will need to be made as to whether or not a Hazardous Waste Generator's License will be required. If not generator's license is needed the applicant will need to submit a Non-generator's Certificate to Land Management.
11. The Camden Town Board reviewed and recommended approval of the Contractor's Yard request at their February 2008 Town Board meeting.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT** The Carver County Planning Commission hereby recommends the issuance of Conditional Use Permit #PZ20080005 for a Contractor's Yard on the land described in Exhibit "A" of the permit application. The Planning Commission further recommends that the following conditions be attached to the permit:

1. The permit is subject to administrative review. A change in ownership, operations or operator shall be cause for the permit to be reviewed by Land Management for a determination as to whether an application for an amendment or similar consideration is necessary. Proposed owners and/or operators are encouraged to contact Land Management as early on in the timeline of the proposed change as possible.
2. The Permittee must construct a single-family home on the site and homestead the property prior to the issuance of CU-PZ20080005.
3. The operation shall be in accordance with the submitted operational plan (dated: 2/21/08) & site plan (dated: 2/19/08). These plans shall be attached to and become part of this permit.
4. Permittee shall obtain the appropriate building permit(s) and on-site sewer permits (if required) prior to the construction of the 50' x 80' structure. All structures used in conjunction with the contractor's yard operation shall meet the requirements of the Minnesota State Building Code.
5. Any other buildings proposed for the property in the future will require an additional or amended conditional use permit, in accordance with County Zoning Code.

6. Permanent outside storage of equipment and supplies is permitted only in the outside storage area indicated in the operational plan and on the site plan. However, if future issues occur they will be required to plant evergreens or install fencing in the areas of concern.
7. A maximum of nine (9) business vehicles shall be permitted as part of the Contractors Yard activity.
8. The Permittee shall maintain the Non-generator's Certificate or contact the Environmental Services (E.S.) Department to obtain a Hazardous Waste Generator's License if there is hazardous waste generated at the site.
9. Permittee shall submit a Certificate of Workers' Compensation Insurance and/or proper affidavit to the Land Management Department.
10. The Permittee must comply with the local road authority access requirements and/or improvements, if any.

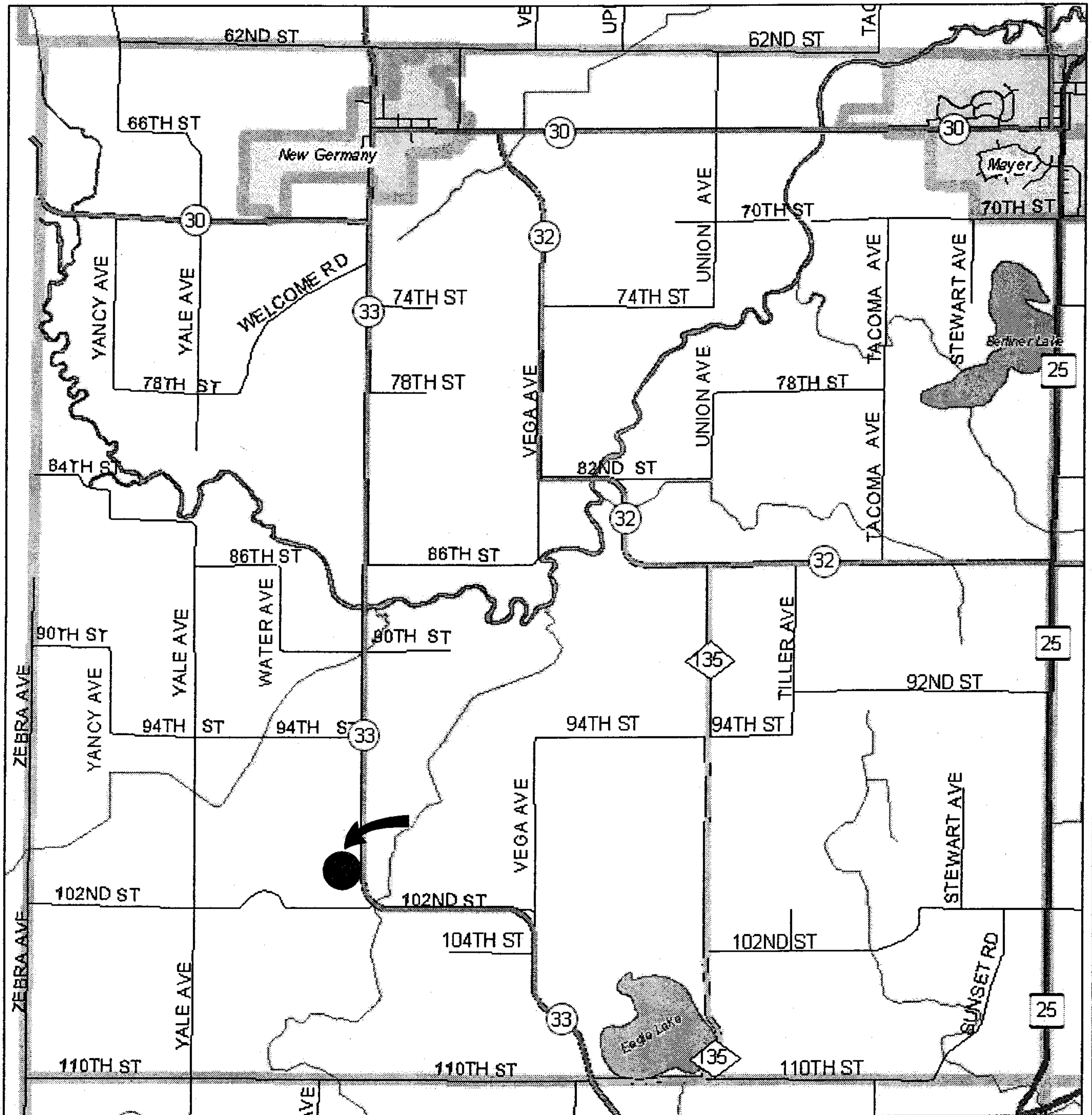
**ADOPTED** by the Carver County Planning Commission this 18<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2008.

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Ted Beise  
Planning Commission Chair



# Camden Township



This map was created using Carver County's Geographic Information System (GIS). It is a compilation of information and data from various City, County, State, and Federal offices. This map is not a surveyed or legally recorded map and is intended to be used as a reference. Carver County is not responsible for any inaccuracies contained herein.



Map Created by Carver County GIS  
Apr 21, 2005





# REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

**AGENDA ITEM : Report on Signs of Safety**

Originating Division: Community Social Services

Meeting Date: 4/1/2008

Amount of Time Requested: 30 min

Attachments for packet:  Yes  NoItem Type:  Consent  Regular Session  Closed Session  Work Session  Ditch/Rail Authority

**BACKGROUND/EXPLANATION OF AGENDA ITEM:** The Division has been implementing Signs of Safety since 2004 when Olmsted County invited us to share their Consultant Andrew Turnell, a therapist from Perth Australia. The Division will be reporting on their implementation of Signs of Safety.

**ACTION REQUESTED:** NA**FUNDING**

County Dollars = \$

Other Sources &amp; Amounts = \$

= \$

**TOTAL** = \$*Related Financial Comments:***FISCAL IMPACT** None Included in current budget Budget amendment requested Other: Reviewed by Division Director

Date: 3/24/2008

## **SIGNS OF SAFETY**

**As a Result of Implementing Signs of Safety, Carver County is Increasingly Being Recognized as a Leader in Child Welfare Reform.**

### **What is Signs of Safety?**

- SofS is a safety organized, relationship grounded practice which incorporates solution focused techniques.
- Olmsted County was the first jurisdiction in the USA to seek to implement SofS.
- Carver County started learning SofS in 2004.

## **Where Did Signs of Safety Come From?**

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- **Andrew Turnell is a therapist in Perth Australia who developed the approach in collaboration with a group of child protection social workers.**
- **Andrew has co-authored two books.**
  - **Signs of Safety; A Solution-Focused Approach to Child Protection Casework with Steven Edwards.**
  - **Working with “Denied” Child Abuse; the Resolutions Approach with Suzie Essex.**

## **How Did we Learn it?**

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- **In 1998 Olmsted County started bringing Andrew Turnell to Minnesota for two weeks each spring and fall.**
- **By 2004 Olmsted had developed their understanding of the approach and offered Carver County one of the weeks each spring and fall beginning in March 2005.**
- **Andrew makes two trips around the world each year. He has trained social workers in Canada, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Sweden, United Kingdom, and Olmsted and Carver Counties.**



## How is it Different?

### The "Old" Way

- Social Workers and other professionals were the experts.
- The Agency and social worker usually took responsibility for children's safety.
- The work was anxiety-driven.
- Families often felt forced or coerced to "do services."
- The focus was often on "fixing" what was wrong.
- Cases were closed when families completed the agency's list of services.
- Threats of placement and CHIPS petitions were commonplace.
- The work was often "Noisy" and complex.

### The "SofS" Way

- Family members are the experts on their own needs.
- Responsibility for children's safety is left with the family.
- Anxiety is reduced.
- Families decide how they will overcome agency concerns.
- Casework focus is on re-creating what is right.
- Cases are closed when families and workers are confident about future child safety.
- Authority is used skillfully.
- The work is simple and concrete.

## Tools of Signs of Safety

- Case Mapping
- Appreciative Inquiry
- Written Safety/Support Plans
- Safety/Support Networks
- Solution Focused Therapy Skills
- Words and Pictures
- 3 Houses



## **Sarah Brandt on Words and Pictures**

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**The Words and Pictures is a tool to use with children to explain why social services became involved and to explain what everyone is worried about. Words are used that the child will understand and then pictures are used to go along with the words to better help the child understand the situation.**

## **More on Words & Pictures**

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- **Gives everyone working with the child, including the parent, foster parent and social worker common language to use when talking to the child about the concerns**

## Benefits of Words & Pictures

### Benefit's for the child:

- Better understanding of why they went into placement.
- The child then doesn't have to make up their own story about why they are in placement.

### ■ Benefit's for the parent:

- Helps them understand the concerns from social services in developing a shared story to give to their child.
- Allows them to see the strengths as well as the concerns.
- Language they can use in sharing with family the reason for social services involvement or reason for placement.

### ■ Benefit's for the worker:

- A tool that allows you to partner with the family to develop strengths and to come up with common language regarding the concerns.
- Relieves pressure in talking with the kids about our involvement.

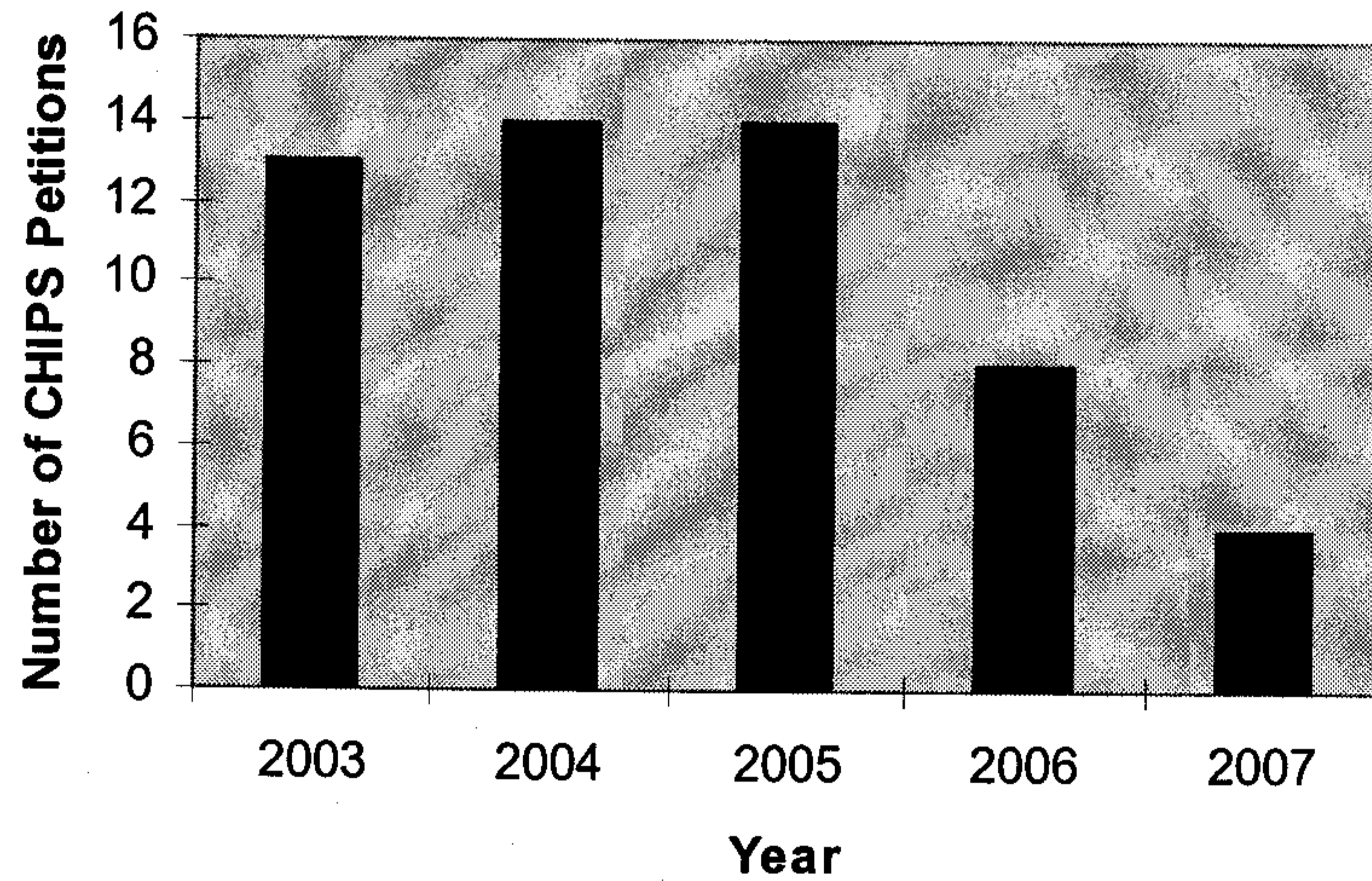
### ■ Benefit's for the foster parent:

- Allows them to see the strengths of the family.
- Gives them a clear picture of the reason for child's placement to better answer questions the child has.

## What's Better for Carver County?

- Client satisfaction
- Worker satisfaction/morale
- Client buy-in
- Budget impact
- Kids are safer
- Fewer CHIPS petitions filed with the court

## Chips Requested by Carole



## Tools Available

- Safety networks
- UAs – SCRAM bracelets
- Scaling questions/EARS
- Locks on doors/door alarms
- Building safety in criminal court orders
- Words and pictures
- Bottom Lines



## **Productive Use of Leverage**

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- Focus on **ACTUAL** harm/danger to the child
- Develop **Bottom Lines**/next steps
- Map case with ongoing worker to hand over leverage
- Discuss with all involved parties the bottom lines/next steps including your next step if bottom lines are not followed
- Follow through

## **Advantages**

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- More positive for families
- Increases partnering with ongoing social worker to show family we are on the same page
- Increases safety sooner for the children in their own home
- Less time consuming court work
- Safety remains in place after Social Services is long gone.
- Energizing for the worker



## Getting Clear About our Concerns

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- It usually is so easy to see what someone else should do differently.
  - Just go to treatment, stop using drugs, clean up the house, etc.
  - It's another thing entirely to get someone to follow our good advice.
- We have learned that our power lies in getting clear about our concerns and insisting that something be done about them.
  - this approach leaves the solution to the person with the problem.

## Best Hopes

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- Another critical part of this approach is building hope for a better future.
- We now talk directly with families about their best hopes.
- Or we use the Miracle Question
  - If a miracle occurs while you are sleeping tonight and when you wake up tomorrow morning everything in your life is exactly the way you want it to be, what do you begin to notice that tells you the miracle happened?

## Safety Networks

- Story about a successful network in a case that opened in June 2006 due to neglect from drug use.
- Grandmother became convinced we wanted to send her grandchild to the father and fought us intensely.
- The first safety network was at the end of November – Grandmother invited 25-30 relatives to support her daughter and help keep her granddaughter safe.
- The mother signed a written safety plan agreeing that the Grandmother will take her child if she doesn't keep her safe.
- The case closed in April 2007.
- The safety network continues to meet and the Grandmother says she couldn't let things go back to the way they were if she wanted to because her relatives would never let that happen.

## Julie Describes Developing a Safety Network





## What are Our Next Steps?

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- We are now transitioning the time we have had with Andrew to other Minnesota Counties.
- In March of 2007, the Center for Advanced Studies in Child Welfare (CASCW) at the U of M took one of our days with Andrew.
- In August we co-sponsored a 2 day conference with the CASCW and invited other counties.
- This March we sponsored our own two day conference and filled the Arboretum's Auditorium.
- We do want to continue a relationship because Andrew is a walking encyclopedia about child protection practice around the world and he continues to pick up new ideas during his travels.

## Putting Staff on Stage

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- One of the most amazing changes came from Andrew interviewing our staff on stage at the end of the August conference.
- Ever since, every one of the people on stage has remained passionate about how they are doing their work.
- The solution focused approach is about doing more of what works and less of what doesn't, so we have been doing more of this.



## **SofS Gatherings in Carver County**

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- After the August conference other counties asked how they can learn more.
- We started accepting invitations to send staff to other counties to share our work and we began inviting them here too.
- To date we have been in contact with directors, managers, supervisors, and social workers from \_\_\_ Minnesota Counties about how we are currently doing our work.

## **Carver County's Work is being recognized by the Department of Human Services**

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- DHS is writing a grant to Casey Family Programs and if funded is proposing to contract with Olmsted and Carver Counties to train other Minnesota Counties.

## **BSC Application on Safety and Risk**

- In the statewide assessment for the Federal Child and Family Review the Department of Human Services identified several promising practices including Signs of Safety and the Breakthrough Series Collaborative (BSC).
- Only Olmsted and Carver Counties have worked with Andrew Turnell to learn Signs of Safety.
- Only Ramsey and Carver Counties have worked with Casey Family Programs to learn the BSC model of organizational change.
- We recently applied for the new American Humane and Casey Family Program's BSC on Safety and Risk. We hope to share how we have learned to put these ideas together and to continue our learn more about implementing improvements in our response to children at risk.

## **Carver is being recognized worldwide!**

- 7 managers and supervisors from New Zealand's National Call Centre recently did a telephone interview with Diane Wickenhauser about how she uses Andrew's ideas in intake.
- Andrew recently let us know that an article we wrote about our work for the U of M's fall newsletter from the CASCW is being passed around in Sweden and Australia.

## **SofS Conference in Gateshead England**

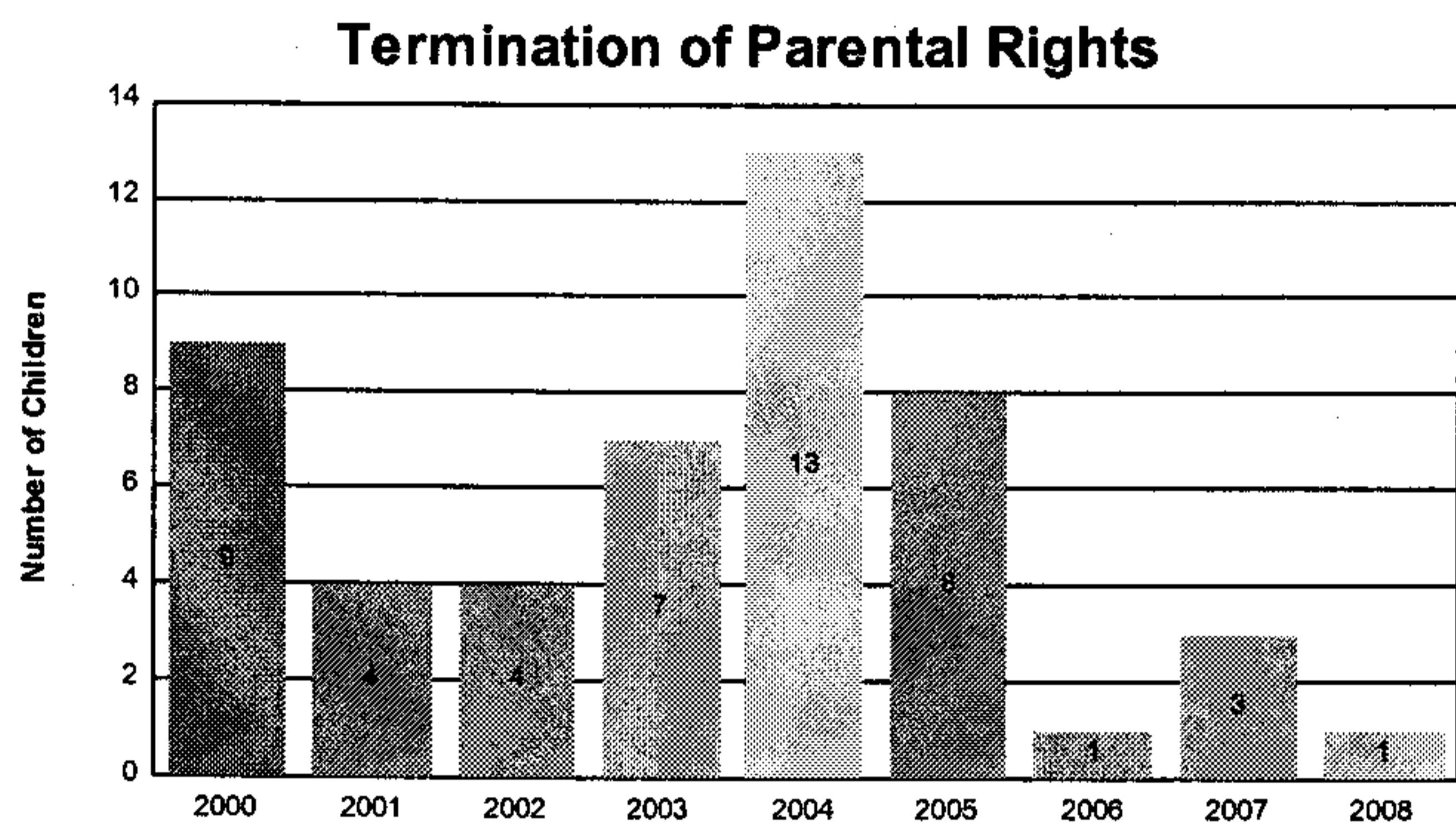
- All of the jurisdictions implementing SofS around the world have been invited to present their work at the Second Worldwide SofS Conference at Gateshead England this August.
- Andrew has offered Carver County more time than anywhere else to describe the breadth of our implementation.
- Andrew has long talked about the assessment workers in Gateshead and the caseworkers and “Family Groupers” in Olmsted.
- We believe we now have intake workers, assessment workers, caseworkers, and in-home contractors whose work may rival the best work being done anywhere in the world.

## **It isn't Accolades we're after but Better Outcomes for Children**

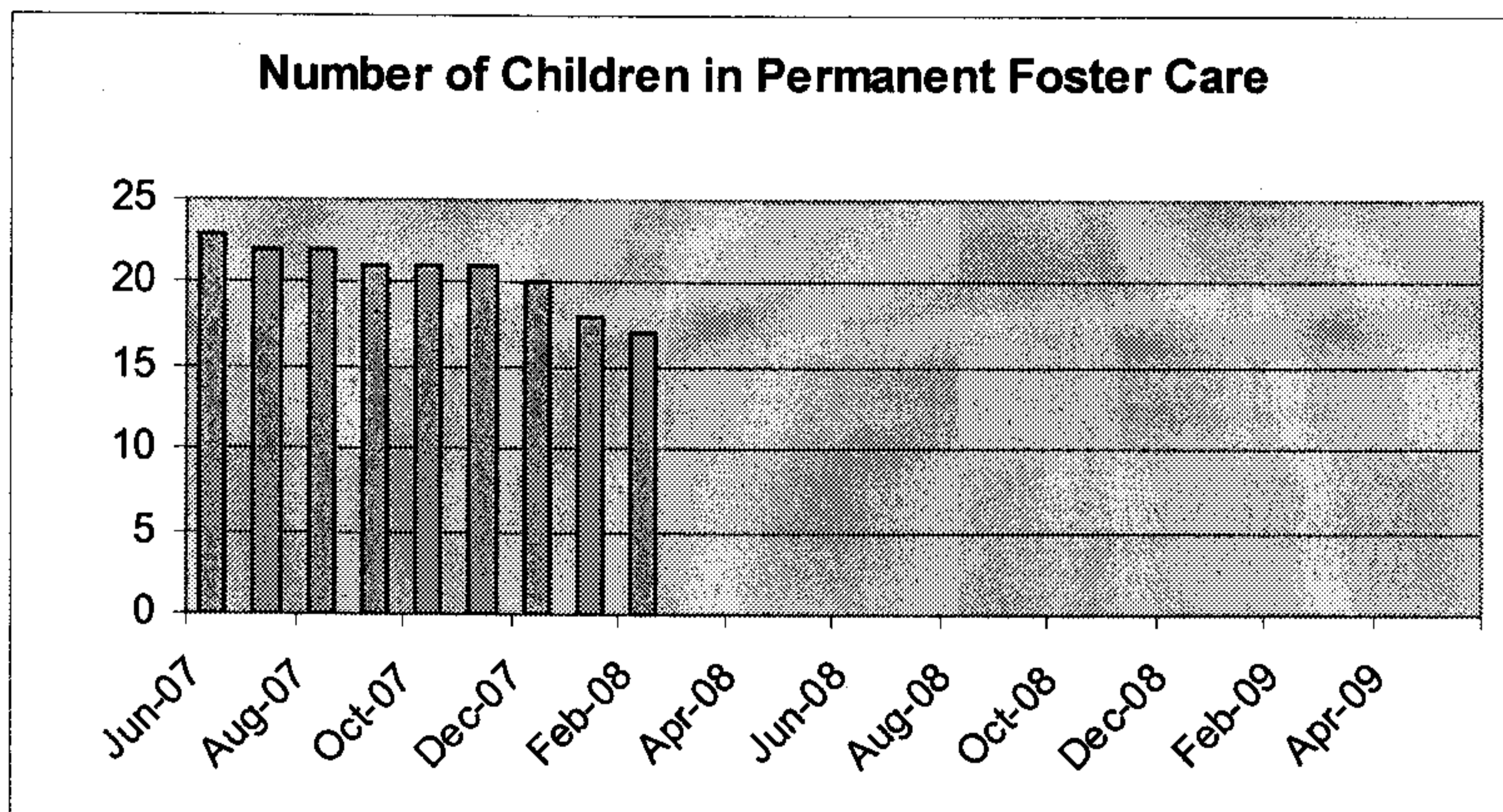
- Much of our work in implementing these ideas across our Department still lies ahead.
- We still have many more “best hopes” for outcomes than those we can chart out of our information system to date.



## We aren't Terminating Parental Rights as Often

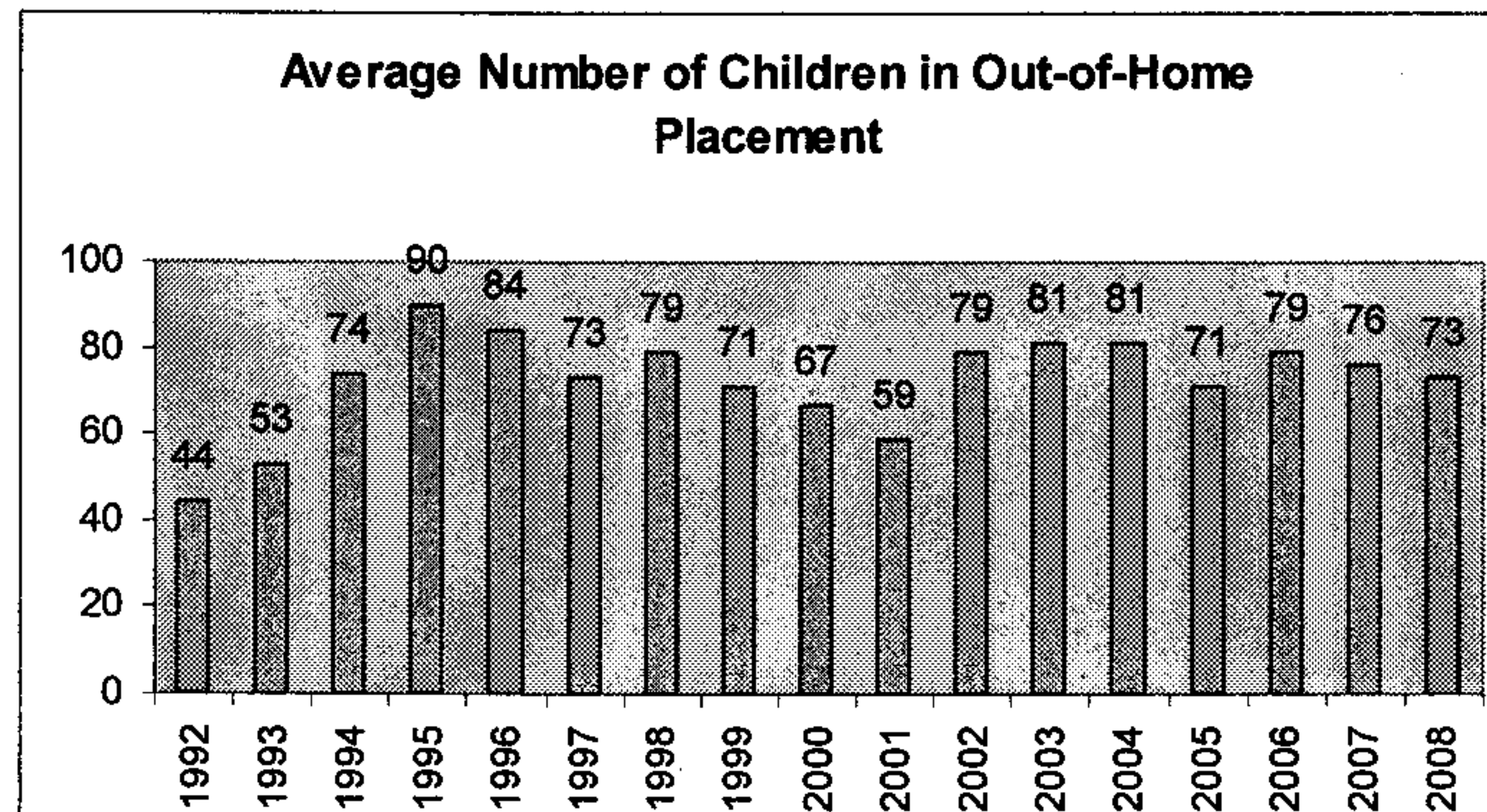


## We have Fewer Children in Long Term Foster Care



## Out-of-Home Placements are Down a Bit.

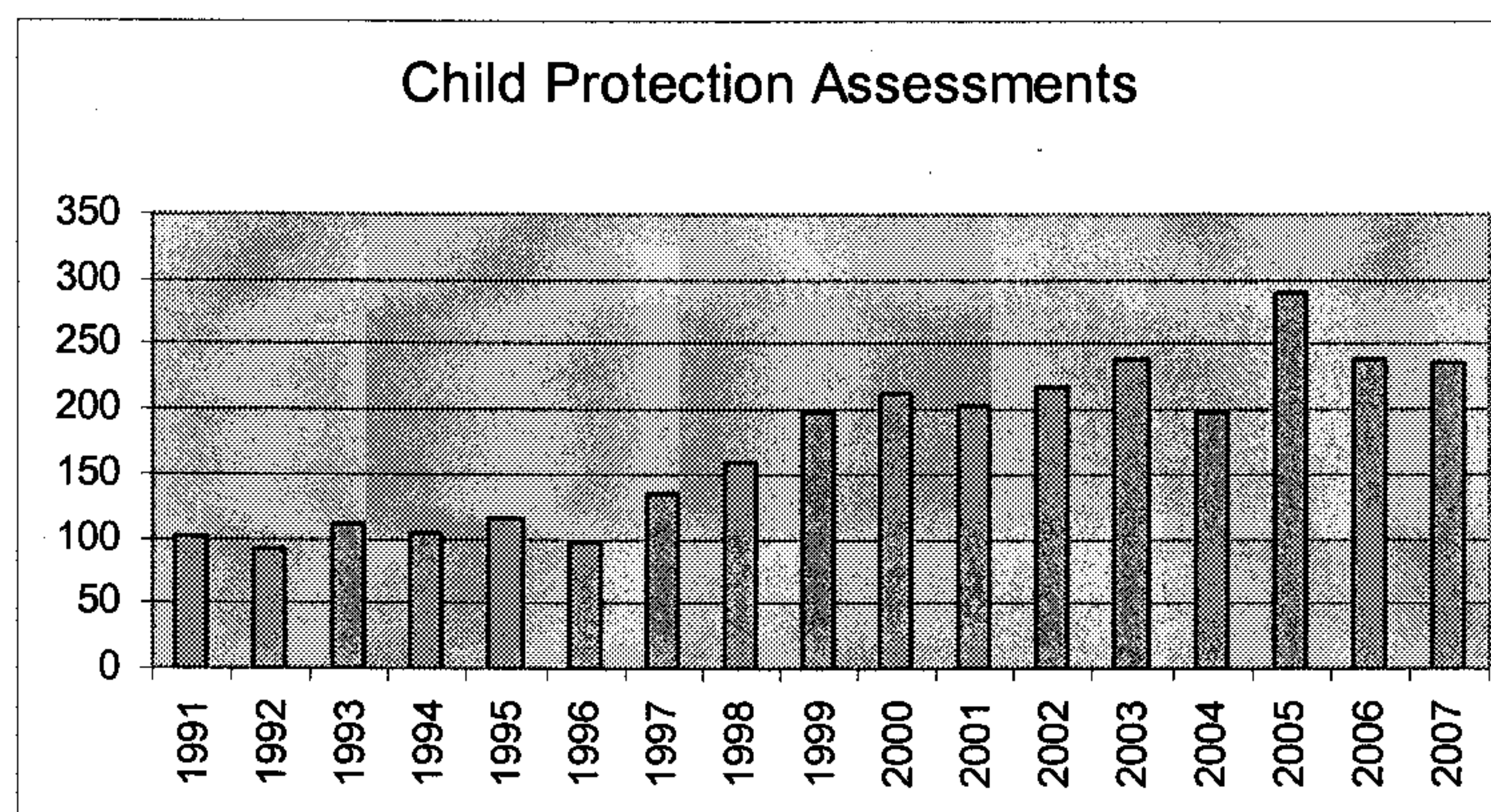
Olmsted County has half as many children in out-of-home placement as they did when they started SofS. We're still dreaming of getting to where we were in 1992.



Our Department's 2008 placement budget is \$1,462,000. Even a small reduction in children in out-of-home placement has a noticeable impact on the budget.

## Child Protection Assessments Aren't Increasing Like They Were

Olmsted County has seen their assessment numbers go down during the past few years. To date our numbers appear to have leveled off.

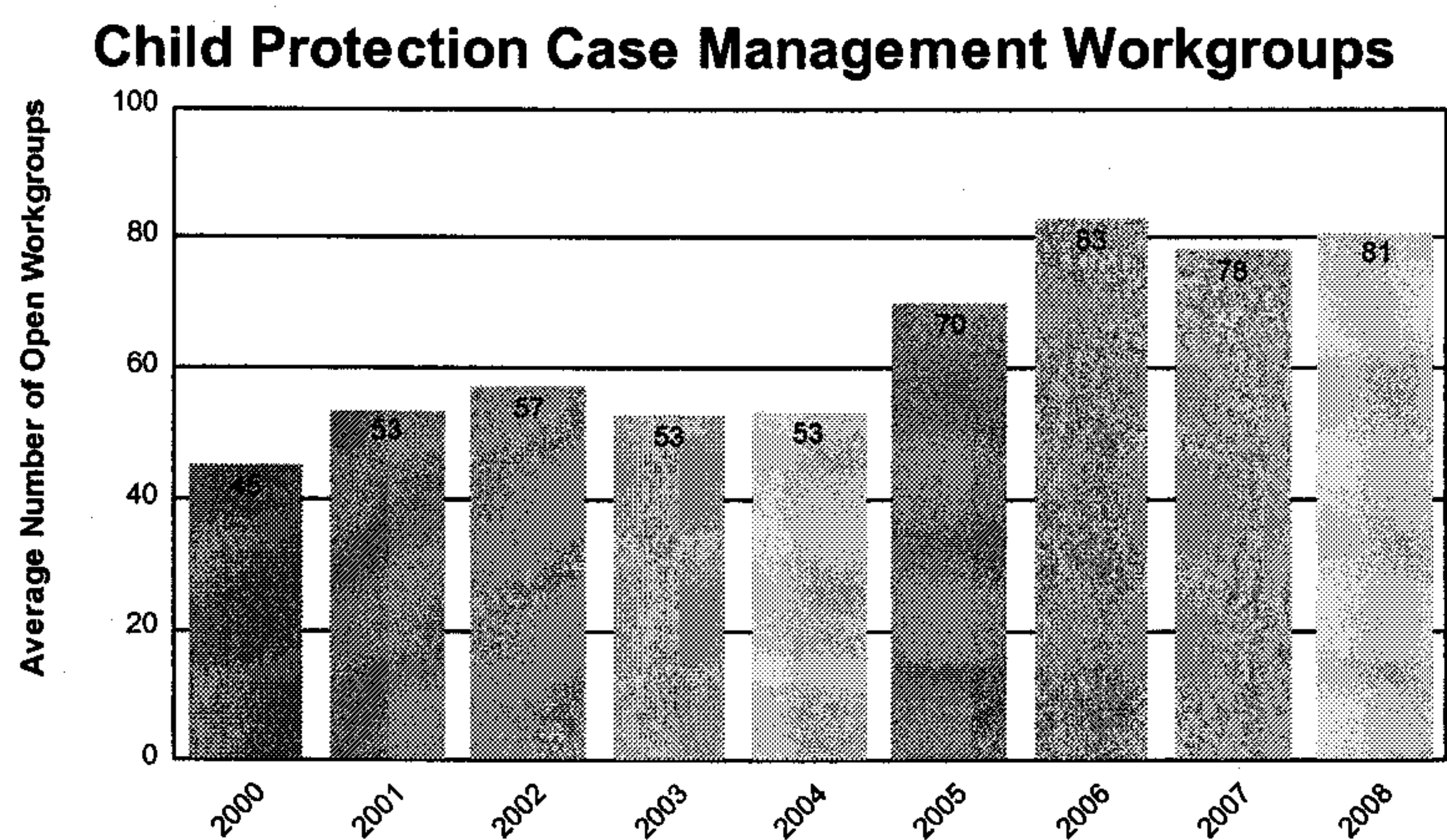




## Length of Child Protection Cases

- One of our best hopes when we started learning SofS was that with improved relationships with families and greater use of informal resources we would be able to safely close cases in less time.
- Less time to get to safety on each case would not only be better for children and families, but we could serve more families in a year with the same number of staff.

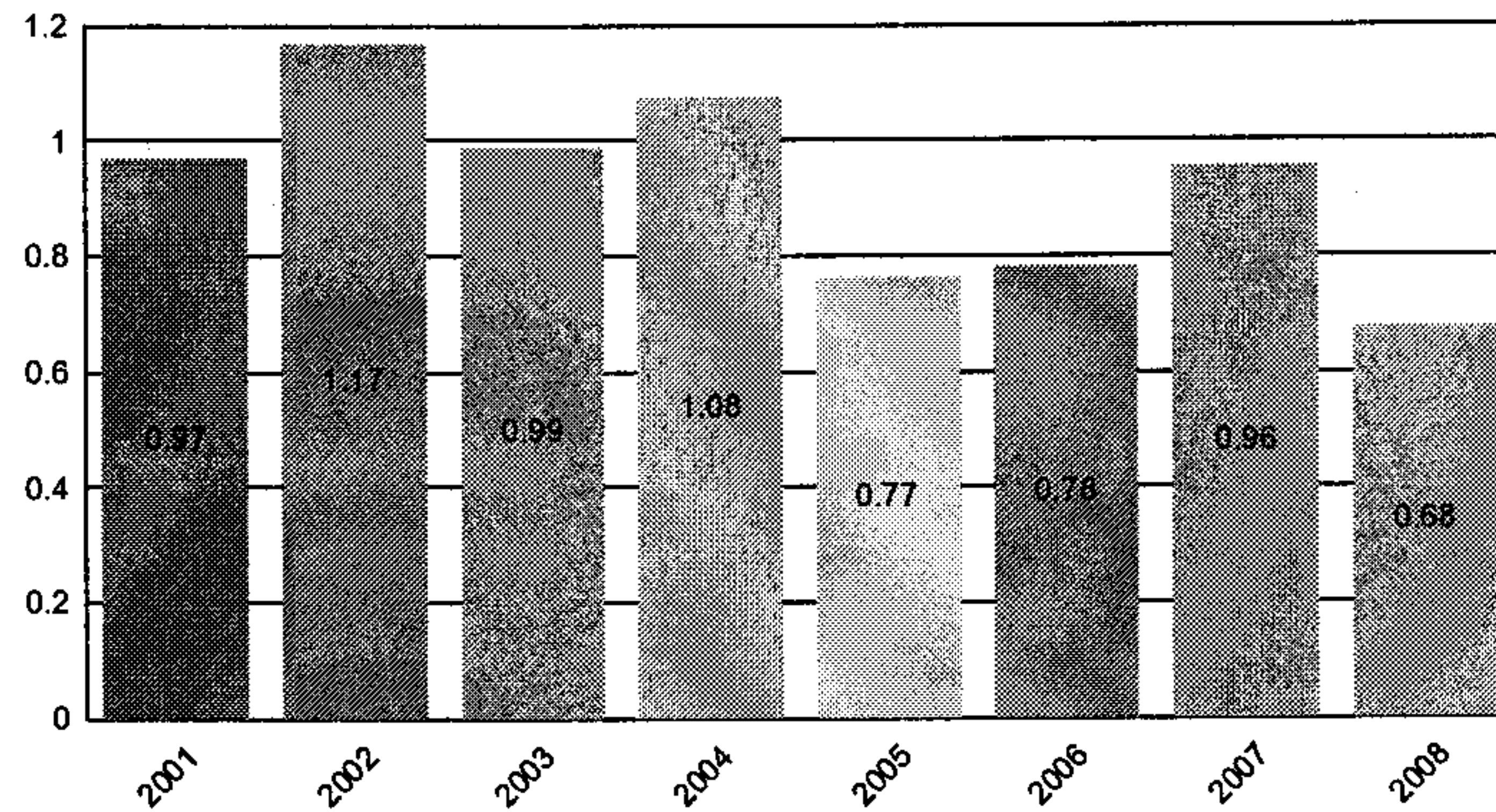
## Number of Open Cases





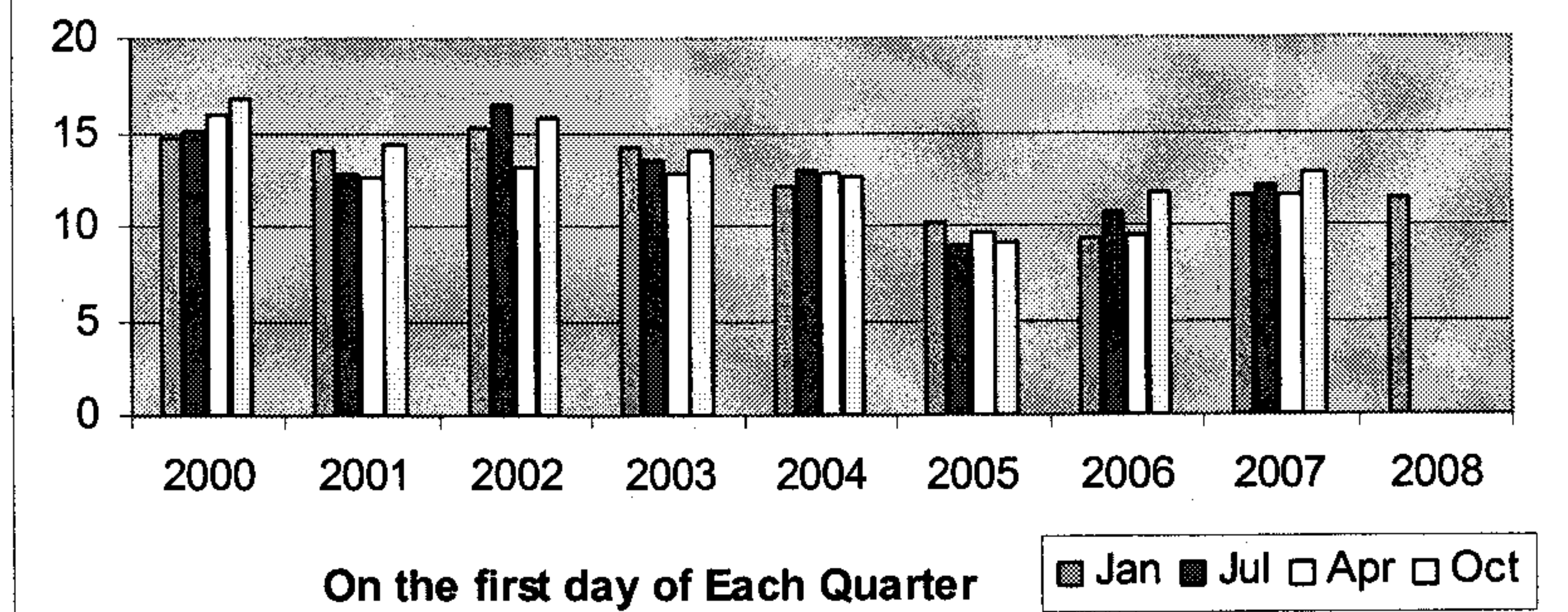
## Average Length from Open to Close

### Average Length of Closed Child Protection Cases

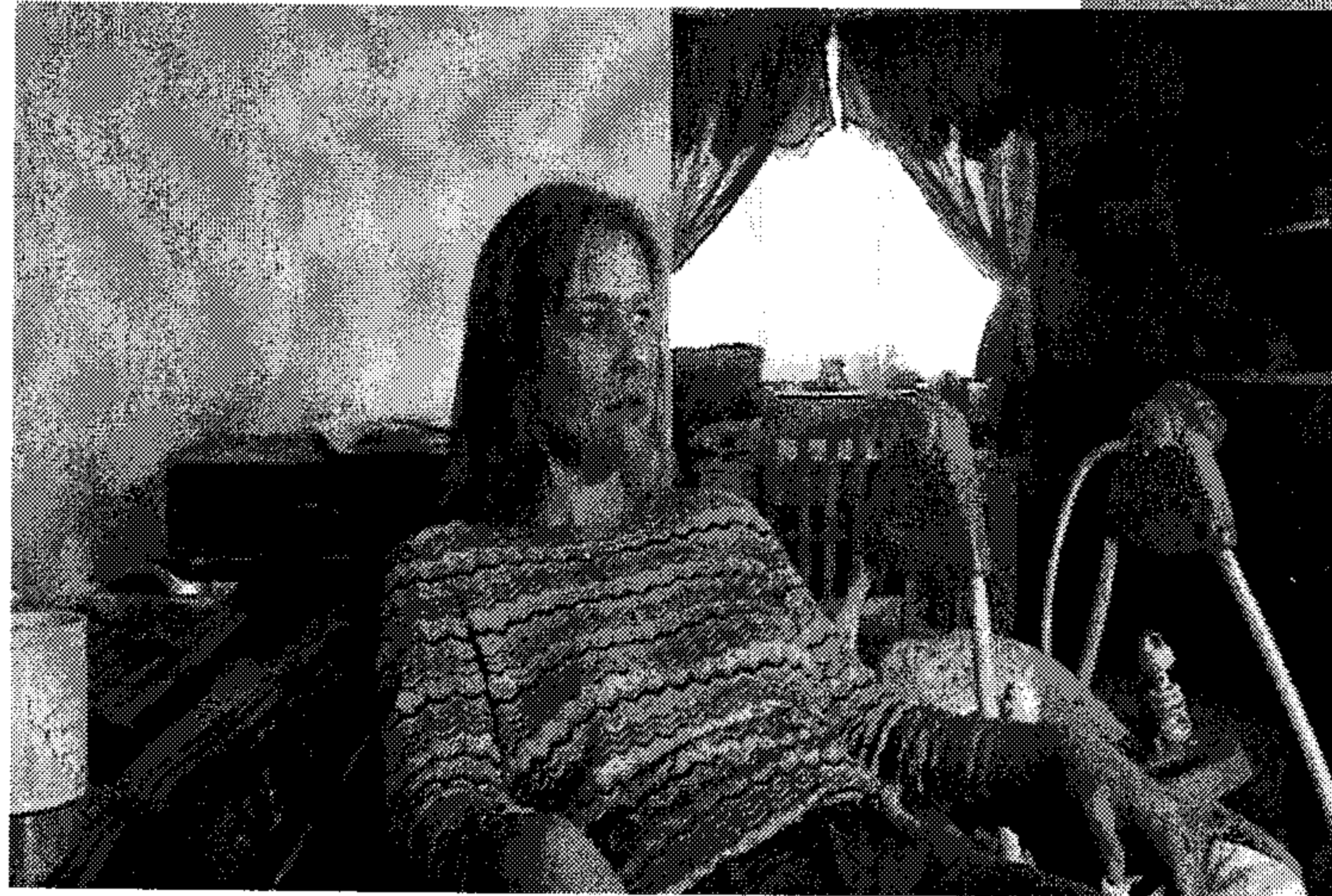


## Average Length of Open Cases On the First Day of Each Quarter

### Average Number of Months Child Protection Cases Were Open



## Julie Says Thanks



**The Child and Family Department  
wishes to thank our Board, County  
Administrator, and Director for  
supporting a work environment where  
this level of innovation is possible!**