



## **Denise Revels Robinson, Assistant Secretary**

*Washington State Department of Social & Health Services  
Children's Administration*



### **Meet Denise Revels Robinson**

Denise Revels Robinson assumed leadership of the Children's Administration as Assistant Secretary on October 19, 2009.

Child welfare is her life's work. Coming from Wisconsin, Denise brings to Washington 40 years of experience working in child welfare, 30 years of which she served in leadership at state, regional, county and local levels for public and private organizations and agencies. As a proven, caring professional, Denise understands the human condition and is committed to making sure that every child is served in the best way possible, every time.

Denise most recently served as executive policy advisor at the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families; and previously she served 12 years as director of the Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare, which was a state-run county child welfare system. She began her career as a child welfare case manager in New York City and Washington, D.C.

Denise served for five years as the director of the Family and Children's Services Division of the Minnesota Department of Human Services, where she led and directed state public child welfare programs across a county-administered human service system. While in Minnesota, she also served on the adjunct faculty at the University of Minnesota, School of Social Work.

During her tenure with Milwaukee County, starting in 1997, Denise in just six years led the way to safely reduce the number of children in out-of-home care from 6,800 to 2,600 by helping reunite children with their families in 70 percent of cases, and 30 percent were adopted within 24 months of entering foster care.

She earned a master of social work degree in 1983 from Howard University School of Social Work in Washington, D.C.; and a bachelor of arts in sociology from West Virginia State University, Institute, West Virginia, in 1969.