1. **General Comments**
   - Only Family Safety and Preservation foster family and group homes were counted as part of this October quarterly report.
   - A conference call was held on 12/8/98 with district representatives and the central office to discuss the benefits and improvements to the quarterly report.
   - Districts will submit Foster home capacity reports two times per year instead of quarterly. The two due dates in 1999 are February 20 (run date 2/1) and August 20 (run date 8/1).
   - All districts will use ICWSIS to generate their data on foster home capacity and waivers, starting with the February 20 report.
   - Only Family Safety and Preservation foster family, dual licensed (foster/shelter) and family foster group homes will be included in future reports. The capacity of provider agency homes will be monitored by the central office through the district licensing reports.
   - If your district submits your own analysis (optional) with the over/under reports, please attach the ICWSIS report used. The current outline for this analysis has been sent to the person completing the over/under reports each district.
   - Per CFOP 175-64, the current waiver criteria for homes with more than five total children include: sibling groups, teen mother and child placed together, and a child or sibling group needing placement, who previously lived in the home.

2. **Foster Home Licensed Capacity** (Graph #1):
   - There were 3,890 Family Safety and Preservation family foster, family group and dual licensed homes reported in October 1998.
   - 16% (n=631) of these homes were over licensed capacity
   - 39% (n=1,528) of these homes were at licensed capacity
   - 45% (n=1,731) of these homes were under licensed capacity.

3. **Distribution of Licensed Capacity** (Graph #2):
   - The total licensed capacity statewide of the homes reported and counted in October=9,859.
   - There were 73 homes statewide licensed for more than five children.
   - The majority of homes (59%) are licensed for 1-2 children.
4. **Homes with More than Five Total Children (Graph #3):**
   - There were 304 homes statewide with more than five total children
   - 55% (n=167) of these homes indicated an appropriate waiver.
   - 45% (n=137) did not indicate an appropriate waiver.

5. **Trends: (February 1998 and October 1998):**
   - There were 3,971 homes reported in February 1998. There were 3,890 homes reported in October 1998. This indicates a net loss of 81 homes. Provider agency homes were reported by some districts in February without being labeled as such and were inadvertently counted. This may account for a small percentage of the net loss in homes.
   - The percentage of homes over licensed capacity increased from 15% (n=604) in February to 16% (n=631) in October.
   - The percentage of homes under licensed capacity decreased from 47% (n=1,852) in February to 45% (n=1,731) in October. Better utilization of homes?
   - There were 103 homes licensed for more than five children in February and 73 in October, decrease of 30 homes.
   - There were 287 homes with more than five total children in February and 304 homes in October, net gain of 17.

6. **Comments/Suggestions**
   - The data reported in February and in October indicates a net loss of 81 homes, despite the increased number of children coming into substitute requiring placements.
   - There were more homes over licensed capacity and more homes with more than five total children, but there were fewer homes licensed for more than five total children.
   - Districts seem to be addressing homes with more than five total children through licensing practices, but not through placement or foster parent recruitment practices.
   - The licensing, placement and recruitment functions in every district must work in unison to reduce licensed capacity to no more than five children, while better utilizing currently licensed homes and recruiting the appropriate number of new ones.
   - Every district must have a district specific foster parent recruitment and retention plan with goals based on data that reflect the current and potential placement needs of children in substitute care. The Child Welfare League of America suggests that every child have at least three potential placements to ensure adequate matching of that child with potential foster parents.
   - Homes with more than five total children, homes over licensed capacity and homes licensed for more than five children must be targeted for ongoing monitoring and intervention. Simultaneously, an action plan to recruit and retain quality foster parents must be implemented with
involvement and support from all district family safety and preservation staff.
There were 3,890 Family Safety and Preservation family foster, family group and dual licensed homes reported in October, 1998.

- **At Licensed Capacity (N=1,528):** 39%
- **Over Licensed Capacity (N=631):** 16%
- **Under Licensed Capacity (N=1,731):** 45%

*There were 3,890 Family Safety and Preservation family foster, family group and dual licensed homes reported in October, 1998.*
Homes with More Than Five Total Children
October 1998
N=304

45% did not indicate an appropriate waiver
(N=137)

55% of these indicated an appropriate waiver
(N=167)