

New Internet Software by Austin Developer Tracks and Monitors Foster Kids

AUSTIN, TEXAS (May 20, 2008) The FLDS polygamist sect in Eldorado made news in April when they embraced technology and leveraged the internet by launching their own website that includes photos, videos, and even daily schedules logging “a day in the life” of FLDS children.

In an ironic parallel, foster care providers and agencies across the Lone Star State are also utilizing new internet technology, developed in Austin, TX, to log the daily lives of the children in their care, including some of those same FLDS kids.

Austin-based KaleidaCare’s internet software tracks foster children, documents their care, and even alerts caseworkers via email or text message when urgent situations or significant incidents arise. The software provides real-time, online information to all stakeholders in a particular child’s welfare (social workers, CPS, lawyers, healthcare providers, etc.)

Working with more than 70 agencies nationwide and 22 of the private agencies in Texas, KaleidaCare’s software also collects and compiles data to map and report on outcomes; pinpointing areas for improvement while also highlighting those programs and services that produce successful outcomes.

With Texas CPS facing fines of \$4 million for failing to monitor foster children adequately, the new software affords the troubled agency a way to increase the frequency and quality of monitoring of children scattered in foster care agencies throughout the state, while improving the caseworker’s ability to nimbly respond to urgent situations. Meanwhile, it eases the documentation and reporting burden for foster care providers, allowing them to focus precious time, energy, funds and other valuable resources toward providing quality of care to the children.

Interest in the welfare of the sect's children and the challenges faced by Texas CPS has brought national attention to the overburdened child welfare system. Texas innovation and technology is helping to provide solutions in an effort to help some of the most vulnerable members of our society. Alistair Deakin, CEO of KaleidaCare is eager to speak with you about their capabilities and how they’re helping improve the quality of foster care. Let me know your availability and I will arrange an interview with Alistair.

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