TO:       Local District Commissioners

SUBJECT: Release of New York State Kids Count 1994 Data Book

ATTACHMENTS: Data Profile of Your Count from Kids Count Report
(Not Available On-Line)

The Department, in collaboration with the Association of New York State Youth Bureaus and the New York State Division for Youth, is participating in the New York State KIDS COUNT project. The purpose of this project, which is funded by the Annie E. Casey Foundation, is to make data on the status of children and youth available to state and local policy makers, planners, advocates, service providers, and all others interested in the well-being of New York's young people. The project will also encourage the use of these data by holding a series of local KIDS COUNT forums later this spring. Moreover, the KIDS COUNT indicators have been chosen as the core data set for County Comprehensive Planning under the Children and Youth Services Initiative.

The 1994 KIDS COUNT data book for New York State counties will be released in a few weeks. You will receive your free copy in the initial mailing. The distribution of the data book will be accompanied by press notices. Therefore, we are sending you an advance copy of the data for your county so that you may prepare potential responses, should you be contacted by the media. Let me emphasize that these data are embargoed from public use or wider distribution until the book has been released. The date of release has not been set. You will be notified through electronic mail of the release date, when it has been set.
We believe that this data book will be a valuable resource, as we continue to respond to the many crises that have confronted New York State's children and their families.

If you have questions about the KIDS COUNT project, or about the data for your county, please call Nancy Dunton at (518) 473-8548.

Karen Schimke
Executive Deputy Commissioner