

Secretary Chad Poppell was appointed as Secretary of the Florida Department of Children and Families in January 2019 by Governor Ron DeSantis. A native Floridian, Poppell has served in state and local government for nearly 20 years. He is dedicated to ensuring that families have the highest quality of services available in their times of need and that they are delivered at the best value to Florida's taxpayers. Poppell has extensive experience in leading large government programs, including systems of care delivered through third parties. He is dedicated to innovation, making sure the department's service delivery systems are appropriately resourced, and to making meaningful change that will enhance the lives of Florida's children and families.

Poppell came to Tallahassee from Jacksonville in 2013 to serve as the Chief of Staff for the Department of Economic Opportunity and then as the Secretary of the Department of Management Services. Following a brief time in the private sector, the Governor charged him to review the Department's program with fresh eyes and a new perspective.