

# IOWA PARTNERSHIPS

**Iowa Department of  
Human Services**

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# Child Welfare Advisory Committee

- Who – A diverse panel of individuals involved in child welfare that are appointed by the Governor’s office and confirmed by the Senate. Members include :
  - Nationally Recognized Child Welfare Experts
  - State Legislators
  - Local Child Welfare Providers
  - Representatives from Juvenile Court Services
  - Birth Parent and Youth Representatives
  - Representatives of the Iowa Foster and Adoptive Parent Association
  - Representatives of the Child Advocacy Board
  - Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS) Representatives
- What – A committee established to consult with and make recommendations to the Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS) concerning policy issues related to child welfare including budget, policies and programs.
- When – Established by the Iowa Legislature in 2007. This group meets on a bi-monthly basis. Additional meetings are scheduled as needed.
- Why – To assist in moving the Department in continuing to improve effectiveness and efficiency when serving children and families of Iowa.

# Child Welfare Stakeholder Panel

- **Who** – The Child and Family Services Stakeholder Panel is made up of a wide variety of individuals and organizations impacted by Iowa’s child welfare system, including youth, family members, foster and adoptive parents, service providers, tribal representatives, Judges, juvenile court officers, attorneys, social workers, mental health and substance abuse providers, advocacy groups, and state agencies including public health, education and inspection and appeals.
- **What** – The Stakeholder Panel acts as an advisory group to DHS and the Judicial Branch regarding goals, outcome measures, and achievements related to child safety and permanency and general system-wide issues.
- **When** – The Department of Human Services , Division of Child and Family Services and the Iowa Judicial Branch created the Child and Family Services Stakeholder Panel in 2006 . This group meets on a quarterly basis

# Child Welfare Stakeholder Panel cont...

- Why - The purpose of the Child and Family Services Stakeholder Panel is to provide meaningful and ongoing discussion and feedback about child welfare initiatives and programs, including:
  - The Child and Family Service Plan (CFSP)\*, so that this plan reflects initiatives and activities going on through communities, private providers and other stakeholders that help the state meet federal expectations.
  - Child and Family Service Review (CFSR)\* Statewide Assessment
  - CFSR onsite review
  - CFSR Program Improvement Plan (PIP)\*
  - Review of local practice and stakeholder roles in assisting children and families to achieve permanency
  - Identification of emerging issues and/or needs and discussion of possible impact on child safety and permanency

# Child Welfare Partners Committee

- Who – A small group of representatives from public and private providers across Iowa.
- What – A sharing of experience and perspective from public and private agencies for the purposes of achieving mutual goals for Iowa Children and Families:
  - Child Safety
  - Permanency
  - Well Being
- When – Established in 2009. This group meets on a bi-monthly basis. Additional meetings are scheduled as needed.
- Why – Both public and private child welfare agencies have critical roles to play in meeting the needs of Iowa's children and families. The committee exists because both public and private agencies recognize the need for a strong partnership. The Child Welfare Partners Committee promotes, practices and models the ways for continued collaboration and quality improvement.