Child Protection Services

DSS

Strong Families - South Dakota's Foundation and Our Future

Table of Contents

Introduction.....1

Protective Services.....2

Placement Services.....4

Special Needs Adoption.....6

Licensing.....6

Contact Us.....7

Introduction

The purpose of the South Dakota Department of Social Services' Division of Child Protection Services is to work together to bring safety, permanency and well-being to families to build a better tomorrow.

Child Protection Services protects children who are unsafe, while making every effort to keep families intact. Child Protection Services also offers referrals for counseling for families, training for adoptive or foster parents, and licensing services for child welfare agencies.

Our staff believes respect, integrity, teawork and accountability are the core values of the division. Our commitment to these values will guide our thoughts and actions as helpers, colleagues and employees. These core values are understood, accepted and to be applied by all Child Protection Services' staff.

Protective Services

State law requires doctors, mental health professionals, social workers, counselors, child care providers, hospital and school personnel, law enforcement officers, parole or court services officers, religious healing practitioners, domestic abuse shelter employees or volunteers, coroners or any safety-sensitive position as defined in subdivision 23-3-64 (2) to report child abuse. Failure by a mandatory reporter to report child abuse or neglect is a misdemeanor.

Anyone who has reasonable cause to suspect that a person under age 18 has been abused or neglected may make a report. The report is made to the Department of Social Services, law enforcement or the state's attorney. Child Protection Services and law enforcement agencies are required by law to investigate reports of child abuse or neglect. Any person who knows or suspects that a child has been physically or emotionally injured, neglected or sexually abused should report it immediately.

Protective services are provided for children and their parents in situations where children are unsafe because of abuse and neglect. It includes intake and screening of referrals of child abuse and neglect involving families who have a caretaking responsibility for children. Referrals are assigned for an initial family assessment. An initial family assessment

is a neutral approach to gathering information in response to a report of suspected child abuse or neglect. Information is gathered through interviews, observations and reviewing documents. It also includes making a determination as to the validity of the allegations in the report, determining whether or not there are any other abuse or neglect issues, making a determination as to the immediate safety and needs of the child, and determining danger to the child through identification of family/child strengths and stresses.

If it is determined the child is unsafe, a Child Protection Services' Family Services Specialist will develop a case plan with the parents to change the conditions in the home causing the child to be unsafe. Normally, a child would not be removed from the home. However, if a child appears to be in immediate danger, a judge may order removal of the child from the situation or a law enforcement officer may take protective custody.

Child Protection Services does not have the authority to take custody of a child. If parents succeed in making improvements, court action may not be necessary. In severe cases, the state's attorney may initiate a criminal proceeding.

Support services are also available to families when there are safety concerns regarding abuse and neglect of children. Support services include training for families in parenting skills and home management. These services also provide referrals for counseling and other assistance.

Placement Services

If children are removed from their homes to ensure their safety, the state must place them in a temporary or permanent home where they will be safe and well cared for.

The following placement services are available:

Kinship placement provides a child with 24-hour temporary care and supervision by a relative while permanent plans are developed.

Foster care provides a child with 24-hour temporary care and supervision in a licensed foster home while parents and social workers try to resolve the family's problems.

Group care provides 24-hour service for children with family and interpersonal conflicts. They may be unable to tolerate a family setting or they may require ongoing counseling in a structured program using community-based resources.

Subsidized guardianship provides financial assistance to a legal guardian who provides permanent care for a child.

Psychiatric residential treatment provides 24-hour services for children who have behavioral or emotional problems requiring intensive professional assistance and therapy in a highly structured, self-contained environment.

Intensive residential treatment provides 24-hour services for children who need more intensive and frequent services, supervision and individualized treatment to prevent runaway behavior, rage and physical aggression, and the likelihood of children injuring themselves or others.

Special Needs Adoption

Special needs adoption is a legal process that unites children who have special needs with adoptive parents. Children considered for special needs adoption may be physically, mentally or emotionally handicapped. These children are primarily victims of abuse and neglect, and parental rights have been terminated. They are usually over age eight, part of a sibling group or a minority group.

Licensing

South Dakota law requires child welfare agencies to be licensed. These agencies include family foster homes, psychiatric residential treatment facilities, intensive residential treatment centers, group care centers for minors, independent living preparation programs, maternity homes and child placement agencies. Licensing is intended to ensure that agencies maintain minimum standards of care and do not present children with any further threat of abuse or neglect. The department trains prospective foster and adoptive parents to become placement resources for children who are either temporarily or permanently unable to live in their own homes. This training is a group process known as Parents Resource for Information, Development and Education (PRIDE). The program involves 30 hours of training and includes a home study process and home consultations.

Contact Us

To report child abuse or neglect, call 1-877-244-0864. If reporting an emergency situation before 8:00 am, after 5:00 pm, on the week-end or during a holiday, please contact your local law enforcement.

For more information about CPS, contact your nearest CPS office.

Aberdeen: (605) 626-2388
3401 10th Ave. SE, 57401-8000
Counties served: McPherson, Edmunds, Brown, Marshall

Brookings: (605) 688-4330
1310 Main Ave. S., Suite 101, 57006-3893
Counties served: Kingsbury, Brookings, Miner, Lake, Moody

Chamberlain: (605) 734-4500
320 Sorensen Dr., PO Box 31, 57325-1022
Counties served: Lyman, Buffalo, Brule

Deadwood: (605) 578-2402
20 Cliff St., PO Box 607, 57732-0607
Counties served: Lawrence

Eagle Butte: (605) 964-4484
1302 N. Willow, PO Box 530, 57625-0530
Counties served: Ziebach, Dewey

Hot Springs: (605) 745-5100
2500 Minnekahta Ave., Bldg 1, PO Box 729, 57747-0729
Counties served: Custer, Fall River

Huron: (605) 353-7100
110 Third St. S.W. Suite 200, 57350-2450
Counties served: Faulk, Spink, Hand, Beadle, Jerauld

Lake Andes: (605) 487-7607
3rd & Lake, PO Box 190, 57356-0190
Counties served: Charles Mix

Martin: (605) 685-6521
404 3rd Ave., PO Box 250, 57551-0250
Counties served: Jackson, Bennett

Mission: (605) 856-4489
671 N. Marge Lane, PO Box 818, 57555-0818
Counties served: Mellette, Todd

Mitchell: (605) 995-8000
116 E. 11th Ave., 57301-1432
Counties served: Sanborn, Aurora, Davison, Hanson, McCook, Douglas

Mobridge: (605) 845-2922
920 6th St. W., PO Box 160, 57601-0160
Counties served: Perkins, Corson, Campbell, Walworth, Potter

Pierre: (605) 773-3521
912 E. Sioux, 57501-3490
Counties served: Sully, Hyde, Hughes, Stanley, Jones, Haakon

Rapid City: (605) 394-2525
510 N. Cambell, PO Box 2440, 57709-2440
Counties served: Pennington

Sioux Falls: (605) 367-5444
811 E. 10th St., 57103-1650
Counties served: Minnehaha, Northern Lincoln

Sisseton: 1-800-568-0004
Sisseton-Wahpeton Sioux Tribe, 509 Agency Village, 57262
Counties served: Roberts, Marshall, Day

Sturgis: (605) 347-2588
2200 W. Main St., 57785-1338
Counties served: Butte, Harding, Meade

Vermillion: (605) 677-6800
114 Market St., PO Box 516, 570069-0516
Counties served: Turner, Clay, Union, Southern Lincoln

Watertown: (605) 882-5050
2001 9th Ave SW, Suite 300, PO Box 670, 57201-0670
Counties served: Roberts, Day, Clark, Codington, Hamlin, Grant, Deuel

Winner: (605) 842-0195
649 W. Second St., PO Box 31, 57580-0031
Counties served: Tripp, Gregory

Yankton: (605) 668-3030
3113 Spruce St., Suite 200, 57078-5320
Counties served: Hutchinson, Bon Homme, Yankton

For more information:

(605) 773-3227

www.dss.sd.gov

DSS

Strong Families - South Dakota's Foundation and Our Future

Printed by the Department of Social Services, January 2015, 5,000 copies
Printed on recycled paper by Printer at $0.?? per copy
BRO/CPS1