

**HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT[441]**

**Adopted and Filed**

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code section 234.6, the Department of Human Services amends Chapter 172, “Family-Centered Child Welfare Services,” Iowa Administrative Code.

These amendments update the rules on family-centered child welfare services to:

- Reflect the standard state contracting terminology, which refers to “the agency” rather than “the department” and “the contractor” rather than “the provider.”
- Clarify who may be included in the provision of services.
- Conform the expectations for contractors to the language of the requests for proposals that are currently in process (bid number ACFS-11-097) for new contracts to be effective on July 1, 2011.

Notice of Intended Action on these amendments was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on February 9, 2011, as **ARC 9353B**. The Department received one internal comment questioning the wording of subrule 172.12(1).

In response, the word “shall” has been changed to “may” in the introductory paragraph of subrule 172.12(1), which now reads: “**172.12(1)** The agency may refer a family for family-centered safety plan services when.” The Department does not intend to refer a family for safety services if the family’s safety plan is sufficient to make the child conditionally safe without services.

The Department has also added the words “and in the contract” at the end of the first sentence in the introductory paragraph of subrule 172.13(2), to clarify that service activities may be spelled out in more detail during contract negotiations. The introductory paragraph of subrule 172.13(2) now reads as follows:

“**172.13(2)** *Service activities.* The activities to be provided by safety plan services shall be as described in the scope of services section of the request for proposals and in the contract. At a minimum, a contractor for safety plan services shall do all of the following:”

These amendments do not provide for waivers in specified situations. Requests for the waiver of any rule may be submitted under the Department’s general rule on exceptions at 441—1.8(17A,217).

The Council on Human Services adopted these amendments on April 13, 2011.

These amendments are intended to implement Iowa Code section 234.6.

These amendments shall become effective on July 1, 2011.

EDITOR’S NOTE: Pursuant to recommendation of the Administrative Rules Review Committee published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin, September 10, 1986, the text of these amendments [amendments to Ch 172] is being omitted. With the exception of the changes noted above, these amendments are identical to those published under Notice as **ARC 9353B**, IAB 2/9/11.

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[For replacement pages for IAC, see IAC Supplement 5/4/11.]