

**441—172.1 (234) Definitions.**

“*Agency*” means the Iowa department of human services.

“*Child*” means a person who meets the definition of a child in Iowa Code section 234.1(2).

“*Child vulnerability*” means the degree that a child cannot on the child’s own avoid, negate, or minimize the impact of present or impending danger.

“*Conditionally safe*” means that one or more signs of present or impending danger to a child that are identified on the safety assessment form are not offset by the child’s degree of vulnerability or the caretaker’s protective capacity. A safety plan is required.

“*Contractor*” means a private organization authorized to do business in Iowa that has entered into a contract with the agency to provide one or more of the services defined in this chapter. “Contractor” refers to the organization that is named as the responsible party in the contract and whose authorized representative has signed the contract.

“*Family safety, risk, and permanency service*” means a service that uses strategies and interventions designed to achieve safety and permanency for a child with an open agency child welfare case, regardless of the setting in which the child resides.

“*Permanency*” means a child has a safe, stable, custodial environment in which to grow up and a lifelong relationship with a nurturing caregiver.

“*Protective capacities*” means the family strengths or resources that reduce, control, or prevent risks from arising or from having an unsafe impact on a child.

“*Risk*” means the probability or likelihood that a child will experience maltreatment.

“*Safe*” means that no signs of present or impending danger to a child are identified or that one or more signs of present or impending danger are identified but the child’s degree of vulnerability or the caregiver’s protective capacities offset the current threat. The child is not likely to be in imminent danger of maltreatment.

“*Safety plan service*” means a service that is designed to monitor the safety of a child during the agency’s child protective assessment or child in need of assistance assessment process.

“*Service area manager*” means the agency official responsible for managing the agency’s programs, operations, and budget within one of the agency service areas.

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