

AUDREY R. MORTENSEN, Dubuque; term expires 1990  
 ILA R. PLASENCIA, Des Moines; term expires 1990  
 DONALD STEEGE, Council Bluffs; term expires 1988  
 BARBARA WHITE, West Des Moines; term expires 1988  
 MARY WIBERG, Ankeny; term expires 1988  
 CECILIA M. ZENTI, Urbandale; term expires 1990

The commission was established by statute in 1972. The 24 members are appointed by the governor. Its principal function is to study the changing needs and problems of the women of this state, and to develop and recommend new programs and constructive action to the governor and the General Assembly. The commission shall:

1. Serve as a clearinghouse on programs and agencies operating to assist women.
2. Conduct conferences.
3. Cooperate with governmental agencies to assist them in equalizing opportunities between men and women in employment and in expanding women's rights and opportunities.
4. Serve as the central permanent agency for the development of services for women.
5. Cooperate with public and private agencies in joint efforts to study and resolve problems relating to the status of women.
6. Publish and disseminate information relating to women and develop other educational programs.
7. Provide assistance to organized efforts by communities, organizations, associations and other groups working toward the improvement of women's status.

## **HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF**

*Michael V. Reagen, Ph.D., commissioner; Hoover State Office Bldg., Des Moines 50319; 515-281-5452*

MADALENE TOWNSEND, chair, Davenport; term expires 1991  
 DOLPH PULLIAM, vice chair, Des Moines; term expires 1987  
 ARLENE DAYHOFF, Cedar Rapids; term expires 1991  
 PAUL HASVOLD, Decorah; term expires 1989  
 MYRNA LANGERUD, Lake Mills; term expires 1989  
 LEWIS RICH, Glidden; term expires 1987  
 J.T. WATSON, vice chair, West Des Moines; term expires 1987 .

The Department of Human Services (DHS) is responsible for economic and medical assistance, protective services for children and adults, and services to the mentally ill, mentally retarded, and developmentally disabled. Under state government reorganization, the governor signed an executive order which brought the Iowa Refugee Service Center into the DHS Division of Community Services as the bureau of refugee programs.

The department's central organizational structure is composed of the Office of the Commissioner and six divisions: Mental Health/Mental Retardation/Developmental Disabilities, Social Services, Community Services, Management and Budget, Organizational Planning, and the Iowa Veterans Home. The commissioner and division directors serve as the cabinet of the department. Human Services employs approximately 7,300 people in its local offices, institutions and central office.

A seven-member Council on Human Services, appointed by the governor, subject to confirmation by the Senate, serves in a policy-making capacity for all department services, and in an advisory capacity to the governor and the commissioner. The commissioner is the chief executive of the department and is responsible for the administration of department programs and services. The commissioner is appointed by the governor, subject to Senate confirmation, and serves at the pleasure of the governor.

### **Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities**

*Charles M. Palmer, deputy commissioner; Hoover State Office Bldg., Des Moines 50319; 515-281-6003*

This division was established on Jan. 1, 1982, by combining the former Division of Mental Health Resources, the Iowa Mental Health Authority, the Developmental Disabilities program staff and the State Mental Health Advisory Council. Two policy