

The commission is also mandated to:

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**

*Charles M. Palmer, director; Hoover State Office Building, Des Moines 50319; 515/281-5452*

DENNIS KILLION, chair, Red Oak; term expires 2001  
 DIANNE DETHMERS PACA, vice chair, Garner; term expires 1999  
 RICHARD S. BURCHETT, Harlan; term expires 1999  
 MARGARET "PEG" GUHIN, Bettendorf; term expires 1997  
 RUTH L. MOSHER, West Des Moines; term expires 2003  
 ALERT G. SORENSEN, Boone; term expires 1999  
 RUSSELL T. SPORER, Ottumwa; term expires 2001

The Department of Human Services is responsible for administering welfare (the Family Investment Program); food stamps; surplus food distribution; Medicaid; child support enforcement; adoption; foster care; various family strengthening and preservation programs; child care registration, licensing and funding; child abuse assessments; dependent adult abuse assessments; adolescent pregnancy prevention; two institutions for juveniles; refugee services; and services for the mentally ill and developmentally disabled, including the operation of four mental health institutions and two institutions for people with mental retardation.

The department's central office is divided into service and administration. The deputy director of services oversees the Divisions of Economic Assistance, Adult/Children/Family Services, Medical Services, Mental Health/Developmental Disabilities, Policy Coordination, the Office of the Field Support and DHS field operations. The deputy director for administration oversees the Divisions of Support services, Data Management, Fiscal Management, and the Continuous Quality Initiatives Unit. Reporting to the DHS director are the two deputies and the public information officer. The director, deputies, division administrators, and the chief of the Office of Field Support, legislative liaison and public information officer serve as the cabinet of the department. Human Service employs 5,500 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 director. The director is the chief executive of the department, and is responsible for the administration of department programs and services. The director is appointed by the governor, subject to Senate confirmation, and serves at the pleasure of the governor.

### **Governor's Developmental Disabilities Council**

*Vacant, executive director; 617 East Second Street, Des Moines 50309; 515/281-9082; 800/452-1936*

BOB BACON, Iowa University Affiliated Program, Iowa City; term expires 1998  
 ROGER CHAPMAN, Department of Public Health, Des Moines; term expires 1999  
 JILL DAVISSON, Clinton county Board of Supervisors, Calamus; term expires 1999