

Janée Harvey

Family Well-Being and Protection Division Director



Janée C. Harvey serves as the Division Director of Family Well-Being and Protection.

She worked as a social worker in New York, NY, for more than a decade before transplanting to Des Moines, IA, in 2015 with her wife and two kids. She is a graduate of Hunter College with a Master of Social Work (MSW).

She has worked with runaway and homeless teens, LGBTQ youth, and families, children and youth involved with the child welfare system for 20 years. Most recently, she served for four (4) years as the Child Welfare and Community Services Bureau

Chief for DHS and as the Division Administrator over Adult, Children and Family Services (ACFS) beginning in 2020, until her transition to Division Director of Family Well-Being and Protection for HHS in 2022. In addition to her professional roles within Child Welfare, she was a foster parent for seven (7) years and is an adoptive parent.

“Janée’s energy and deep love of policy is remarkable and is exactly what we need as we move to implement Family First federal legislation,” said Director Kelly Garcia.

“She’s the right person at this important time as we focus on strengthening families through evidence-based practices and services designed to keep families together. She will also work to highlight the importance of child protective services.”