

FAMILY FIRST IMPLEMENTATION GUIDE

FAMILY CONNECTIONS WILL BE STRENGTHENED AND PRESERVED

Family Preservation Services

- Focus on safety
- Crisis response
- Daily contact with family
- 10-day service approvals

Safecare

- Parenting skills
- Modeling & practice of strategies
- Evidence-based model

Solution Based Casework

- Strength-based
- In-home service
- Child safety outcomes
- Keeps family together
- Evidence-based model

Child Safety Conferences

- Facilitated family meeting
- Keeps family together safely
- Addresses immediate danger any time in the life of the case

Family-Centered Services

- Delivered in-home
- Conferencing
- Clear goals
- Connections to needed services
- Addresses child danger
- Features evidence-based programs

Community Referrals

- Natural and informal connections
- Medicaid or private insurance paid services
- Can continue after DHS/Court involvement ends
- Substance Abuse Treatment Services
- MH Services

Qualified Residential Treatment Program (QRTP)

- Clinical assessment required
- TOP tool
- 60 day court review
- Length of stay limitations
- Existing practitioner or shelter practitioner will complete assessment
- 6-9 months
- FCS is available for 30 days when a child enters, or 30 days prior to exit



Services described are enhanced or new. Licensed family foster care and shelter will continue essentially unchanged

Implementation Date:
July 1, 2020

See DHS Family First webpage for more information:
dhs.iowa.gov/child-welfare/FamilyFirst