

Child Welfare Partners Committee Membership Guidelines

The Child Welfare Partners Committee (CWPC) was established in December 2008 and is comprised of leadership across the state representing both the public (state) and private (provider) perspectives. Workgroups exist as need be and can be comprised of CWPC members or identified public or private roles brought in for varied perspectives or special projects.

Vision:

The combined experience and perspective of public and private agencies provide the best opportunity to reach our mutual goals: child safety, permanency and well-being for Iowa's children and families. Collaboration and shared accountability will keep the focus on child welfare outcomes.

Primary Purpose:

The Child Welfare Partners Committee promotes, practices, and models the way for effective collaboration and system improvements. This committee exists because both public and private agencies recognize the need for a strong partnership to advance the child welfare system through shared decision-making and solution-focused actions to positively impact the lives of children and families in Iowa.

Committee Membership:

The **Child Welfare Partners Committee (CWPC)** will consist of 13 members and the HHS Case Management Program Manager, who will provide administrative support.

Members Required for CWPC:

- **Non-Provider Representation (Permanent, no term limit):**
 - **Iowa HHS:** Division Director of Family Well-Being and Protection
 - **Iowa HHS:** Child Protective Services, Director
 - **Iowa HHS:** Service Area Manager (SAM)
 - **Iowa HHS:** Social Work Administrator (SWA)
 - **Juvenile Court Services:** Juvenile Court Services, Director (or proxy)
 - **Meskwaki Tribe:** Leadership
 - **Coalition for Family & Children's Services in Iowa:** Coalition Executive Director (or proxy)
- **Provider Representation:**

- Membership includes leadership in organizations that provide the following contracted services:
 - Qualified Residential Treatment Provider (QRTP)
 - Emergency Shelter
 - Parent Partner
 - Achieving Maximum Potential (AMP)
 - Family Centered Services (FCS)
 - Supervised Apartment Living (SAL) and/or Aftercare (1 position – representing either or both services)
 - Foster/Adoptive Families: Recruitment, Retention, Training, and Support (RRTS)
- **Six (6)** slots available for providers.
- Each term lasts three years, with a maximum of two consecutive terms.
- Terms run **July 1 – June 30**.
- Unexpected vacancies will be filled as they occur.
- Provider representation (6 slots) will account for diversity in organizational size (small and large) and geographic location to ensure a statewide perspective on child welfare services.

Application Process:

1. Identifying Potential Members:

When a spot becomes vacant or is anticipated to become vacant due to the end of a term limit, the CWPC will have a brief discussion to generate ideas for potential new members. This discussion will consider gaps created by the departing members, such as perspectives missing in services, geographic location, or organizational size.

2. Outreach to Potential Members:

The Case Management Program Manager will email Provider Leadership to inform them that there are openings on CWPC. This outreach will include:

- Providing information about CWPC, including member expectations.
- Explaining the application process, including the application deadline.

3. Application Review and Selection:

All submitted applications will be shared with current CWPC members. A vote will then be conducted to determine which candidate(s) will join the CWPC.

4. New Member Orientation:

New members will participate in a brief orientation session conducted via Teams or Zoom. This session will be led by one or both co-chairs and will cover the inner workings of the CWPC.