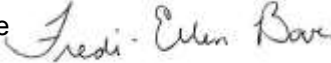


To: DCF/DMCPS Administrator
DCF Area Administrators
Child Placing Agency Directors
Child Welfare Agency Directors
County Departments of Community Programs Directors
County Departments of Human Services Directors
County Departments of Social Services Directors
Group Home Providers
Tribal Social Service/Indian Child Welfare Directors
Private Child Placing Agencies
Residential Care Center Providers
Shelter Care Providers
Tribal Chairpersons

From: Fredi-Ellen Bove
Administrator 

Re: Child Welfare Workforce Survey on Policy Creation and Implementation

PURPOSE

The Division of Safety and Permanence within the Department of Children and Families has partnered with the University of Wisconsin-Madison Survey Center (UWSC) to issue a "FLASH" survey to child welfare workers. The survey will gather information on the workforce's assessment of child welfare policy implementation strategies in general, as well as the upcoming child support policy in particular, with the goal of strengthening the policy development and implementation process.

BACKGROUND

The Division of Safety and Permanence is studying how child welfare policy is developed and implemented to understand how we can strengthen the policy development and implementation process. The survey will provide feedback from caseworkers on how they experience the policy process and what they hope to see in the future. The survey also includes questions related to an upcoming January, 2018 policy change regarding child support referrals from eWiSACWIS for children in out-of-home care.

INFORMATION SUMMARY

Within the next two weeks, staff with casework responsibilities for families served in our state's child protective service, child welfare, and youth justice systems will be sent an email with an explanation of, and a link to, the survey described above. The survey will take approximately 20 minutes to complete. All responses will be strictly confidential and will be submitted directly to a centralized database managed by the UWSC, where the responses will be aggregated. No information specific to an individual staff person will be shared with anyone, including staff of DCF or county child welfare agencies.

To ensure that the aggregated responses from these surveys are representative of the full child welfare workforce, worker participation is critical. We will share a report of the findings with all local agencies. We ask for your cooperation in encouraging staff to complete the survey as soon as possible, and providing assurances to staff that their individual responses will be handled by a neutral third party, and will remain strictly confidential.

CENTRAL OFFICE CONTACT: Policy and Program Analyst
Bureau of Safety and Well-Being
Division of Safety and Permanence
608-422-6974

MEMO WEB SITE: <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/cwportal/policy>