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: Permanent Rules for the Reasonable and Prudent Parent Standard & the SAFE Home Study

PURPOSE

The provisions within the Emergency Rule described in DSP Informational Memo Series 2016-35i related to 2015 Act 128, Reasonable and Prudent Parent Standard, and 2015 Wisconsin Act 378, requiring the use of a standardized assessment tool to conduct an investigation of an applicant for approval of a placement for adoption, recognition of a foreign adoption, and issuance of a license to operate a foster home have been adopted as Permanent Rule. This impacts the following Department Administrative Rules:

- Ch. DCF 52 Admin. Code Residential Care Centers for Children and Youth
- Ch. DCF 54 Admin. Code Child Placing Agencies
- Ch. DCF 56 Admin. Code Foster Home Care for Children
- Ch. DCF 57 Admin. Code Group Homes
- Ch. DCF 59 Admin. Code Shelter Care Facilities

BACKGROUND


2015 Wisconsin Act 378 requires the use of a standardized assessment tool approved by the department to conduct an investigation of an applicant for approval of a placement for adoption, recognition of a foreign adoption, and issuance of a license to operate a foster home. The Act went into effect on October 1, 2016.

This memo sets forth the requirements for the Reasonable and Prudent Parent Standard as described in the Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act and 2015 WI Act 128, and the requirements for use of a standardized assessment tool set forth in 2015 Wisconsin Act 378.
POLICY AND PROCEDURE REQUIREMENTS

All of the changes outlined above have been included in the following Department Administrative Rules:
- Ch. DCF 52 Admin. Code Residential Care Centers for Children and Youth
- Ch. DCF 54 Admin. Code Child Placing Agencies
- Ch. DCF 56 Admin. Code Foster Home Care for Children
- Ch. DCF 57 Admin. Code Group Homes
- Ch. DCF 59 Admin. Code Shelter Care Facilities

eWiSACWIS DOCUMENTATION

eWiSACWIS has been updated for all functionality related to the changes to the Ch. DCF 56 Admin. Code.

ACTION SUMMARY

The Permanent Rule is effective August 1, 2017. The permanent rule is attached to this memo.

REGIONAL OFFICE CONTACT: DCF Area Administrator

CENTRAL OFFICE CONTACT: Out-of-Home Care Specialist
Out-of-Home Care Section
(608) 422-6937

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

Foster Care Worker Information:
https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/cwportal/fc#plcmnt-resources?accactive=1
(Chapter DCF 56)

Child Welfare Licensed Agency Policies and Rules:
https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/cwlicensing/policy#cwlicensing-rules
(Chapters DCF 52, 54, 56, 57, 59)