

What happens next?

We want to help you understand how the Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) will work with you.

Your family is a good candidate for HomeWorks, a service which provides supports while your child lives at home.

There are two types of In-Home services: court-ordered and non-court services

COURT-ORDERED

- Involves a juvenile court judge and includes regular court hearings.
- Your family will be given the opportunity to hire an attorney, or have an attorney appointed to represent them.
- The judge makes the final decisions on services provided and when services end.

NON-COURT

- Your family may be given the opportunity to work with DCFS without court involvement based on your cooperation and willingness to participate
- DCFS, in collaboration with your family team, will determine when services are finished.

What if I don't want to participate?

If your family refuses non-court services or chooses to not engage with the caseworker, then DCFS will review the circumstances with legal counsel to determine if court-ordered services need to be requested.

If your family refuses court-ordered services, or chooses to not engage in those services, then there is the potential for court actions.

With either court-ordered or non-court services, if there is a safety issue and your family is unable or unwilling to effectively safety plan, this could result in the child being removed from the home.

STRENGTHENING FAMILIES PROTECTIVE FACTORS

Every contact with your caseworker is an opportunity to help strengthen your family. This is done by focusing on five Protective Factors that help families succeed, thrive, and reduce the need for future DCFS services. The five Protective Factors are:



PARENTAL RESILIENCE:
Building positive coping skills to manage stress.



SOCIAL CONNECTIONS:
Have a social support system. We help and encourage you to identify and include individuals or groups who can help support you through this process.



KNOWLEDGE OF PARENTING & CHILD DEVELOPMENT:
Empowering you to support healthy child development.



CONCRETE SUPPORT IN TIMES OF NEED:
Ask for help when you need it.



SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL COMPETENCE OF CHILDREN:
Help your child manage feelings & relationships.

Why HomeWorks?

With HomeWorks, you will be supported by a caseworker as well as other services, tools, and resources designed to:

- Maximize your family's ability to protect and care for your child.
- Strengthen your family.
- Prevent the need for foster care.

What can I expect?

1. Your caseworker will visit your family in the home at least once a month, and usually more often depending on the need. These visits will include some interactive work with you and your family.
2. Your caseworker is expected to have a private conversation with your child at least once a month.
3. Your caseworker may ask to involve a non-custodial parent as part of your case.
4. You and your Child and Family Team will decide on services that address the needs of your family. These may include therapy, parenting support, employment, and housing.
5. Your caseworker will work with you to complete assessments and develop plans that guide your DCFS services.
6. If drugs or alcohol were a concern at any point in your case, you may be asked to complete regular drug tests as well as further assessment and treatment as needed.
7. Decisions about when it is appropriate for DCFS services to end will be made by your team. This decision will be based on progress toward the goals of your child and family plan as shown through behavioral changes.

HomeWorks Tools

The first step in helping your family is to better understand your situation. Your caseworker will use a variety of tools to help identify your family's strengths and needs including:



STRUCTURED DECISION MAKING (SDM)

A tool that helps identify any child safety and risk issues. SDM also helps determine how often your caseworker visits your family.



CHILD AND FAMILY TEAM MEETINGS (CFTM)

Meetings to bring together your family, support persons, and service providers to set goals, create plans, and guide decisions to help you and your family.



SAFETY PLAN

A written document developed with your family that shows how child safety concerns will be managed.



UTAH FAMILY AND CHILD ENGAGEMENT TOOL (UFACET)

An assessment completed with your family that helps identify your family's strengths and needs.



CHILD AND FAMILY PLAN

A plan written with your family to address needs identified in the assessments, and to connect to community resources.

Your local DCFS Offices: Northern Region



1050 South Medical
Drive, Suite B
Brigham City, UT
(435) 734-4075

950 East 25th Street,
Suite C
Ogden, UT
(801) 629-5800

115 West Golf Course Road,
Suite B, Logan, UT
(435) 787-3400

57 West 200 North
Bountiful, UT
(801) 397-7640

1350 East 1450 South
Clearfield, UT
(801) 776-7300

Call our 24/7 hotline for after hours
support at:

1-855-323-3237

or to report suspected child abuse or
neglect.

utah department of
human services
Child and Family Services

DCFS
PM 373
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A FAMILY GUIDE TO IN-HOME SERVICES

The goal of HomeWorks
is to help your child safely remain
at home while we support you in
addressing issues that brought your
family to the attention of DCFS.

YOUR CASEWORKER:

CONTACT #:

YOUR CASEWORKER'S SUPERVISOR:

CONTACT #: