

Permanency Planning and the Adoption Process

Resource List

| RESOURCE | DESCRIPTION | WEB ADDRESS OR ONLINE PATH |
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| <i>Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS)</i> | National and state foster care and adoption data on all children in the public child welfare system. | www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/stats_research/index.htm#afcars |
| <i>Adoption and Guardianship Website (on CountyLink)</i> | Website that provides policies and procedures, information, tools and resources related to children under guardianship of the commissioner, including the adoption process specific to these children. | http://mn.gov/dhs/ Click on: Partners and Providers Click on: Counties and Tribes Click on: CountyLink website Click on: DHS Program Resources Click on: Adoption and guardianship Or direct link to website: http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/main/idcplg?IdcService=GET_DYNAMIC_CONVERSION&RevisionSelectionMethod=LatestReleased&dDocName=dhs16_170475 |
| <i>Adoption Disruption and Dissolution Report</i> | Publication of the Hennepin-University Partnership (HUP), a collaboration to address issues of child well-being, dated May 2010. | http://www.cehd.umn.edu/ssw/cascw/Publications/ResearchPublications.asp#per Click on: Adoption Disruptions and Dissolutions Report (under Permanency heading) |
| <i>Adoption Disruption and Dissolution Numbers and Trends</i> | Publication of the Child Welfare Information Gateway, dated June 2012. | http://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/s_disrup.pdf |
| <i>Adoption List Serve</i> | DHS email communication device for county and PPAI adoption social workers for the purposes of: recruitment; dissemination of information and training opportunities; and venue to discuss practice issues. | To become a member of the list serve, contact: Janet Johnson, DHS adoption records program consultant, ami.nafzger@state.mn.us , 651-431-4508 |
| <i>Adoption Process Checklist for Children Under Guardianship of the Commissioner(DHS 6542)</i> | DHS publication that outlines the required steps to legally finalize the adoption of a child under guardianship of the commissioner. | https://edocs.dhs.state.mn.us/lfserver/Public/DHS-6542-ENG |

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| Adoption-related Forms | DHS adoption-related forms available online through eDocs. | http://mn.gov/dhs/ Click on: People We Serve Click on: Children and Families Click on: Services Click on: Adoption Scroll down and click on: DHS Forms Alphabetical list, click on document name to open |
| Annie E. Casey Foundation | Private foundation that promotes public policies, human service reforms and community supports that more effectively meet the needs of vulnerable children and families. | www.aecf.org |
| Association of Administrators of the Interstate Compact on Adoption and Medical Assistance | Resource for state and local agency staff to work more effectively with families that have an Adoption Assistance agreement and move from one state to another (ICAMA). Includes list of states with reciprocal Medicaid programs. | www.aaicama.org Click on: Medicaid Click on: State Funded Adoption Assistance Click on: COBRA option and COBRA-reciprocity Click on: COBRA-reciprocity chart |
| Background Studies for Foster Care and Adoption | Completed by DHS Licensing Division. | Policy questions regarding background study requirements: 651-431-6620 or DHS.BackgroundStudyAdmin@state.mn.us . Questions about submitted NETStudy application: DHS.NETStudyAdmin@state.mn.us . http://mn.gov/dhs/people-we-serve/children-and-families/licensing Click on: Background Studies |
| Belonging and Emotional Security Tool (BEST) | Tool developed by the Annie E. Casey Foundation/Casey Family Services for social workers to explore the possibility of a deeper emotional and/or preferable legal commitment between foster parents and youth, and to assess ambivalence about permanency among both. Part of Casey’s foster care practice called Lifelong Families Model. | http://www.aecf.org/OurWork/ChildWelfarePermanence/CaseyFamilyServices.aspx Enter “Belonging and Emotional Security Tool” in the Search function. Click on: A Foster Care Practice Model: Lifelong Families Case Practice Click on: Belonging and Emotional Security Tool (BEST) |
| Breaking Barriers to Teen Adoption | Youth, adoptive parents, caseworkers and national experts talk about issues related to permanency and adoption. | Part 1: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FAxMWRqgwxl Part 2: |

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| | | http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t7ML2Z2kbyU Part 3: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M_iTNXX8WLQ http://www.senecacenter.org/familyconnectedness |
| California Permanency for Youth Project (CPYP) | Publishes resources for organizational development to support youth permanency, family finding and engagement, and permanency practice for emancipated youth. CPYP merged with the Center for Family Finding and Youth Connectedness, hosted by Seneca Center. CPYP's resources may be found on Seneca's website. | |
| Camp to Belong | Non-profit group dedicated to reuniting brothers and sisters placed in separate foster, adoptive or kinship homes through Summer Camp Programs and year round events. | www.camptobelong.org |
| Casey Family Programs | Agency dedicated to providing, improving – and ultimately preventing the need for – foster care. Includes a resource library as well as information for youth and families. | www.casey.org |
| Casey Life Skills Assessment | Free online assessments [including Casey Life Skills (CLS) Assessment], tools and learning resources to help engage youth in foster care in order to gain the life skills they need to prepare for adulthood. | http://www.casey.org/Resources/Tools/cls/ |
| Catholic Community Services of Western Washington | Provides resources in family search and engagement. | www.ccsww.org/fse |
| Center for Advanced Studies in Child Welfare (CASCW), University of Minnesota | Provides research and evaluation, publications and training on a variety of child welfare topics. | www.cehd.umn.edu/ssw/cascw |
| Child and Family Visitation: A Practice Guide to Support Lasting Reunification and Preserving Family Connections for Children in Foster Care (DHS 5552) | DHS publication that focuses on the importance of visitation for youth to maintain relationships and connections, achieve well-being and attain permanency. | http://edocs.dhs.state.mn.us/lfserver/Legacy/DHS-5552-ENG |
| Child Welfare and Child Support Data Sharing Permitted, DHS Policy Bulletin #12-75-01 | DHS publication that explains amended federal regulations expanding the data disclosure allowed by the child support program (IV-D) and the child welfare program (IV-B and IV-E). | www.dhs.state.mn.us/main/groups/publications/documents/pub/dhs16_167719.pdf |
| Child Welfare Data Dashboard | Performance measures in 13 key child welfare areas. Dashboard's Excel spreadsheet format can be used to compare specific county | http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/main/idcplg?IdcService=G ET_DYNAMIC_CONVERSION&RevisionSelectionMethod |

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| | data to other counties, statewide average, and national standards. | =LatestReleased&dDocName=dhs16_148137 |
| Child Welfare Information Gateway | Information and resources to help protect children and strengthen families, from prevention to permanency, including child abuse and neglect, foster care and adoption. | www.childwelfare.gov |
| Child Welfare League of America | Coalition of private and public agencies serving vulnerable children and families. Focus on policies, programs and practices through research/data, publications and conferences/training. | www.cwla.org |
| Children’s Bureau, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services | Provides links to laws and policies, statistics and research, and program FAQs. | www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb |
| Children’s Justice Initiative (CJI) | Collaboration between the Minnesota Judicial Branch and the Minnesota Department of Human Services, whose purpose is to work with the juvenile courts, social services agencies, county attorneys, public defenders, court administrators, guardians ad litem, tribes and other key stakeholders to improve the processing of child protection cases and the outcomes for abused and neglected children. | www.mncourts.gov/?page=148 |
| Children’s Law Center of Minnesota | Provides free legal representation to children who are either under guardianship of the commissioner or have been removed from their homes because they are in need of protection. Advocates for the rights and interests of Minnesota’s children in the judicial, child welfare, health care and education systems. | www.clcmn.org |
| Clarifying Culture in Placement Decisions, DHS Policy Bulletin #12-68-02 | DHS publication that provides clarification on consideration of culture when making placement decisions that is compliant with the federal (MEPA-IEP) and state laws. | www.dhs.state.mn.us/main/groups/publications/documents/pub/dhs16_167606.pdf |
| Court Rules | Court rules for juvenile protection, adoption, juvenile delinquency, Guardian ad Litem, and others, published by the Minnesota Judicial Branch. | http://www.mncourts.gov/default.aspx?page=511 |
| Data Privacy Web-based Training | “Protecting Information Privacy”, a web-based training developed by DHS that covers the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and state Minnesota Data Practices Act. | https://hipaacourses.dhs.state.mn.us Access by selecting the most appropriate of the three statuses: 1) employee of DHS or a Minnesota county; 2) not an employee, but do business with DHS, a Minnesota county or both; or 3) guest. If you choose status 1) or 2), enter code 12345. You must print the page that documents your test score and date completed to save for your records. |

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| <i>Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption</i> | Series of video clips related to adoption. | <p>“Unadoptable is Unacceptable”: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aLP3pAfCHgo</p> <p>“Say Yes”: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QOqx4ggOJWc&feature=relmfu</p> <p>“Finding Forever Families”: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JOf2GhZeq8A&feature=related</p> |
| <i>DHS Adoption Forms</i> | Alphabetical list of adoption-related forms, available electronically in PDF format | <p>http://mn.gov/dhs/ Click on: People We Serve Click on: Children and Families Click on: Services Click on: Adoption Scroll down and click on: DHS Forms</p> |
| <i>DHS Forms, Publications, and Documents</i> | Search function for all DHS forms, publications and other documents available in eDocs. | <p>http://mn.gov/dhs/ Click on: General Public Click on: Information Center Click on: Documents and forms (eDocs) OR http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/main/idcplg?IdcService=G ET_DYNAMIC_CONVERSION&RevisionSelectionMethod=LatestReleased&dDocName=id_000100</p> |
| <i>Education and Training Vouchers (ETVs)</i> | Financial assistance for some foster youth and youth adopted from foster care after age 16 to attend post-secondary education and training programs. Please see website for eligibility requirements. | <p>http://mn.gov/dhs/ Click on: People We Serve Click on: Children and Families Click on: Services Click on: Adolescent Services Click on: Education and training vouchers</p> |
| <i>Evan B. Donaldson Adoption Institute</i> | Leadership to improve adoption laws, policies and practices through research, education and advocacy. | www.adoptioninstitute.org |
| <i>Examining Child Re-entry into Out-of-home Care, DHS 6637A</i> | Minnesota Child Welfare Continuous Improvement Brief that provides data, strategies, and recommendations related to foster care re-entry. | https://edocs.dhs.state.mn.us/lfserver/Public/DHS-6637A-ENG |
| <i>Extending Foster Care for Youth Ages 18-21, DHS Policy Bulletin #12-68-22</i> | DHS publication that provides policy guidance on foster care for youth ages 18-21, including Title IV-E claiming, associated with the federal Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions | http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/main/groups/publications/documents/pub/dhs16_173921.pdf |

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| | Act of 2008. | |
| Family Group Decision Making | Family-driven, strength-based process of facilitating collaboration and leadership of family groups to craft and implement plans that support the safety, permanency and well-being of children. Youth-in-transition conferences are an innovative way to use the FGDM model. | http://mn.gov/dhs/ Click on: People We Serve Click on: Children and Families Click on: Services Click on: Child Protection Click on: Family Group Decision Making |
| Family Matters: Information for relatives considering becoming foster parents | DHS publication written for adults who want to care for relative children in the foster care system. Provides guidance in assessing a relative's capacity to care for a child. | https://edocs.dhs.state.mn.us/lfserver/Public/DHS-4672-ENG |
| Fathers Adoption Registry | Registry managed by the Minnesota Department of Health to allow possible biological, but not as yet legal, fathers to receive notice of pending adoption proceedings for their children. Website includes: FAQs, forms, and link to PowerPoint presentation for practitioners. | www.health.state.mn.us/divs/chs/registry/top.htm |
| Finding Adoptive Families for Teens: Practice Tips from The Homecoming Project for Working with Teens Under State Guardianship | Publication of The Homecoming Project, a five-year demonstration project of DHS, managed by the Minnesota Adoption Resource Network under grant contract, and funded through a federal Adoption Opportunities grant. Provides best practice and concrete tips for working with youth to achieve permanency. | http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/main/groups/children/documents/pub/dhs16_143827.pdf |
| Finding Permanent Families for Teens Under State Guardianship | Final report of The Homecoming Project | http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/main/groups/children/documents/pub/dhs16_147732.pdf |
| Foster Care Re-entry | Quarterly Supervisors Forum VPC on February 19, 2013, that addresses issues of foster care re-entry and highlights innovative practices developed and implemented by Scott, Dakota and Kandiyohi Counties. This VPC will be archived for 90 days. | mms://stream2.video.state.mn.us/oet/dhsquarterlysupvforum021913.wmv |
| Foster Club | National network for youth in foster care. Provides a variety of resources for youth transitioning from foster care and for the adults working with and supporting those youth. Many free resources as well as resources that may be purchased. | www.fosterclub.com |
| Healthy Transition grant contracts | DHS grants to non-profit agencies to provide Independent Living Skills (ILS) training and other services to youth ages 16-21. Grantee agencies may assist youth currently and previously in care. | Healthy Transition grantees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ain Dah Yung, www.adycenter.org, (651) 227-4184 ▪ Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency, www.aeo.org, (218) 327-6749 ▪ Catholic Charities, St. Cloud, www.ccstcloud.org/SAIL/index.html, (320) 240- |

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| | | <p>8204</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Catholic Charities, St. Joseph Home and Hope Street, Minneapolis, http://cctwincities.com/hope_street.aspx, (612) 204-8230 ▪ Division of Indian Work, www.diw.gmcc.org, (612) 722-8722 ▪ Evergreen, www.evergreenhouse.org, (218) 751-8223 ▪ Face to Face Health and Counseling Services, Inc./Safezone, www.face2face.org, (651) 772-5563 ▪ Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota, Brainerd, www.lssmn.org, (218) 828-4383 ▪ Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota, Duluth, www.lssmn.org, (218) 529-2287 ▪ Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota, Mankato/Rochester Area (formerly Rochester Area Y), krista.wicklund@lssmn.org, (507) 287-2260, ext. 327 ▪ Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota, St. Paul, www.lssmn.org, (651) 644-7739 ▪ Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota, Willmar, www.lssmn.org, (320) 231-7075 ▪ Red Wing Youth Outreach, www.redwingyouthoutreach.org, (651) 388-3371 ▪ YWCA of Duluth, www.ywcaduluth.org, (218) 722-7425 ext. 111 |
| <i>Helping Youth Transition From Out-of-Home Care to Adulthood: Best Practices Guide (DHS 6530)</i> | DHS publication that explains the requirements for county social workers to assist adolescents in out-of-home care prepare for successful adulthood. | https://edocs.dhs.state.mn.us/lfserver/Public/DHS-6530-ENG |
| <i>HIPAA Web-Based Training</i> | “Protecting Information Privacy”, a web-based training developed by DHS that covers the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and state Minnesota Data Practices Act. | https://hipaacourses.dhs.state.mn.us Access by selecting the most appropriate of the three statuses: 1) employee of DHS or a Minnesota county; 2) not an employee, but do business with DHS, a Minnesota county or both; or 3) guest. If you choose |

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| | | status 1) or 2), enter code 12345. You must print the page that documents your test score and date completed to save for your records. |
| Host County Concurrence and Contact Provisions for Child Foster Care, DHS Policy Bulletin #12-68-04 | DHS publication that outlines the process, including notification requirements, when a foster child is placed in another county. | http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/main/groups/publications/documents/pub/dhs16_168306.pdf |
| Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (ICPC) | Policies and procedures that guide states as they send and receive children to and from other states for the purpose of foster care and adoption. The uniform procedures ensure that foster care and adoptive placements promote the best interests of the child. | http://mn.gov/dhs/ Click on: People We Serve Click on: Children and Families Click on: Services Click on: Adoption Click on: Interstate Compact |
| Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative | Provides information and resources to help foster youth make successful transitions to adulthood. Promotes efforts to help former foster youth with education, employment, health care, housing and developing permanent connections with caring adults. Advocates for youth engagement. | www.jimcaseyyouth.org |
| Kids Are Waiting: Fix Foster Care Now | Project of the Pew Charitable Trusts to improve the well-being of children in foster care. | www.kidsarewaiting.org http://www.pewhealth.org/projects/pew-commission-on-children-in-foster-care-85899367236 Scroll down and click on: Kids Are Waiting: Fix Foster Care Now |
| Love and Belonging for a Lifetime: Youth Permanency in Child Welfare | Special issue of <i>Protecting Children</i> , a professional publication of the American Humane Association, that highlights practice and policy issues that support effective permanency planning and decision-making with adolescents in foster care. (Volume 26, Number 1, 2011) | http://www.americanhumane.org/assets/pdfs/children/protecting-children-journal/pc-26-1.pdf |
| Making Healthy Choices: A Guide on Psychotropic Medications for Youth in Foster Care | Guide developed by the Children’s Bureau that provides information and worksheets to assist youth recognize when they need help, weigh options for medication use, ask questions about their diagnoses and treatment, and take medication safely. | http://www.nrcyd.ou.edu/psych-med-youth-guide Click on: Download the Guide |
| MEPA-IEP Web-Based Training | “Compliance with The Multiethnic Placement Act of 1994, as amended, and Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964”, a two-part | http://www.nrcadoption.org/webcasts-2/mepa-2/ |

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| | video presentation sponsored by the Policy Division of the Administration for Children and Families, Children’s Bureau, in coordination with the National Child Welfare Resource Center for Adoption, a service of the Children’s Bureau. | |
| Midwest Evaluation of the Adult Functioning of Former Foster Youth | Prospective study following young people in Iowa, Wisconsin and Illinois as they make the transition from foster care to early adulthood. | www.chapinhall.org/research/report/midwest-evaluation-adult-functioning-former-foster-youth |
| Minnesota Child Welfare Training System | Joint effort between the Minnesota Department of Human Services and County Social Service Administration to provide a training system for county and tribal social workers, supervisors, managers and directors to better serve children and families. The system also provides training to foster, adoptive and kinship (FAK) providers. | http://edocs.dhs.state.mn.us/lfserver/Legacy/DHS-4204-ENG To view/register for courses: http://mn.gov/dhs/ Click on: People We Serve Click on: Children and Families Click on: Services Click on: Child Protection Click on: Child Welfare training system From here, you may review all courses offered during a specific quarter. |
| Minnesota Department of Human Services | | http://mn.gov/dhs/ Click on: People We Serve Click on: Children and Families Click on: Services Click on: Adolescent Services or Adoption or Child Protection or Foster Care to reach each program’s home page. From each home page, you may access many resources and information sources. |
| Minnesota Office of the Revisor of Statutes | Provides current Minnesota Statutes and Rules, and links to legislative bill searches and status, House and Senate information, etc. Statute Chapters: 245A [Licensing], 245C [Background Studies], 259 [Adoption], 259A [Adoption Assistance], 260 [ICPC], 260C [Child Protection/CHIPS/Placement/ Permanency/Adoption of children under guardianship of the commissioner] Rule Chapters: 2960 [Licensing], 9560 [Social Services for Children] | www.revisor.mn.gov |
| Minnesota Program Directory: Family Group Decision Making | Provides overview of FGDM, including information on Youth in Transition Conferences (YTC), a youth-centered, youth-focused | http://edocs.dhs.state.mn.us/lfserver/Legacy/DHS-5421-ENG |

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| | future planning meeting for youth moving from foster care, corrections or residential treatment to a more permanent placement. | |
| Minnesota Rules of Adoption Procedure | Procedure that governs the Minnesota court process for adoption cases. | http://www.mncourts.gov/?page=148 Scroll down and click on: Minnesota Adoption Rules |
| Minnesota's Child Welfare Report and other research, reports and statistical facts | DHS publications that report a myriad of research, reports and data for a variety of purposes. Annual reports are available for a number of previous years. | http://mn.gov/dhs/ Click on: People We Serve Click on: Children and Families Click on: Services Click on: Child Protection Click on: Publications Archived annual reports available under Child protection statistical reports heading |
| MN ADOPT | Adoption program managed by the Minnesota Adoption Resource Network (MARN), under grant contract with DHS. Services include: maintenance of the State Adoption Exchange; information and referral; support groups; training for adoptive parents and professionals; and post-adoption clinical services for adoptive families in crisis (HELP program)]. | www.mnadopt.org |
| National Resource Center for Adoption (NRCA) | A service of the Children's Bureau (ACF/DHHS), with the mission to assist federally funded child welfare agencies in building their capacity to ensure the safety, well-being and permanency of abused and neglected children through adoption and post-adoption services, program planning, policy development, and practice. | www.nrcadoption.org |
| National Resource Center for Permanency and Family Connections (NRCPFC) | A service of the Children's Bureau (ACF/DHHS), dedicated to help strengthen the capacity of publicly administered or supported child welfare agencies through training, technical assistance and information services. Provides information and research on a wide range of child welfare issues, including: relative search and engagement, placement stability, siblings, concurrent planning, older youth permanency and the federal Fostering Connections Act. Archived webcasts on a variety of topics are available to view. | www.nrcpfc.org |
| National Resource Center for Youth Development (NRCYD) | A service of the Children's Bureau (ACF/DHHS), provides training and technical assistance to publicly administered and supported child welfare agencies to enhance the quality of life for our nation's youth. | www.nrcyd.ou.edu |

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| <i>Northwest Foster Care Alumni Study</i> | Research examining how youth formerly in foster care have fared as adults and what changes in foster care services could improve their lives. | http://www.casey.org/Resources/Initiatives/FosterCareAlumniStudies/NorthwestAlumniStudy.htm |
| <i>Older Adolescent Permanency and APPLA (2005-2011)</i> | Annotated list of resources, compiled by the NRCPPC, on the topics of older adolescent permanency and Another Planned Permanent Living Arrangement (APPLA). | http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/socwork/nrcfcp/info_services/download/APPLA%20and%20Permanency%20for%20Older%20Adolescents.pdf |
| <i>Paths to Permanency (DHS 4907)</i> | DHS publication that provides information on the legal and financial differences between adoption and transfer of permanent legal and physical custody. | http://edocs.dhs.state.mn.us/lfserver/Legacy/DHS-4907-ENG |
| <i>Permanency Pact</i> | Publication of Foster Club, a tool to support permanency for youth in foster care. A pledge by a supportive adult to provide specific supports to a young person, with a goal of establishing a lifelong, kin-like relationship. | www.fosterclub.com/files/PermPact_0.pdf |
| <i>Policy on Do Not Resuscitate/ Do Not Intubate (DNR/DNI) or Other End-of-life Care Orders for Children Under Guardianship of the Commissioner</i> | DHS policy on DNR/DNI or other end-of-life care orders for children under guardianship, including procedures for responsible counties to request the commissioner's consent for a DNR/DNI order. | http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/main/groups/county_access/documents/pub/dhs16_170735.pdf |
| <i>Policy on Foster and Adoption Placement Decisions for Children Under Guardianship of the Commissioner</i> | DHS policy on foster and adoption placement decisions for children under guardianship. Explains procedures for responsible counties to make placement decisions, including forms and documentation required to be submitted to DHS. | http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/main/groups/county_access/documents/pub/dhs16_170737.pdf |
| <i>Policy on Sibling Placement, Separation and Visitation</i> | DHS policy on sibling placement, including requirement for visitation plan if siblings are separated. Explains requirement for court approval to separate siblings for the purpose of adoption. | http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/main/groups/county_access/documents/pub/dhs16_170736.pdf |
| <i>Policy on State Adoption Exchange and Other Child-specific Recruitment Activities for Children Under Guardianship of the Commissioner</i> | DHS policy on adoption recruitment efforts, including procedures for registering a child on the State Adoption Exchange. | http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/main/groups/county_access/documents/pub/dhs16_170690.pdf |
| <i>Policy on Statewide Adoption Email Listserv</i> | DHS policy on requirements for membership on, and use of, the statewide adoption email listserv. | http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/main/groups/county_access/documents/pub/dhs16_170738.pdf |
| <i>Practice Guide for Concurrent Permanency Planning (DHS)</i> | DHS publication that promotes best practice and compliance with the federal Adoption and Safe Families Act (ASFA) of 1997 by | http://edocs.dhs.state.mn.us/lfserver/Legacy/DHS-4778-ENG |

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| 4778) | recognizing each child’s need for stability and permanency by requiring timely decisions. | |
| Practice Guide for Post-Adoption Search Services (DHS 4701) | DHS publication that explains statutory requirements and best practices in conducting post-adoption searches. | https://edocs.dhs.state.mn.us/lfserver/Public/DHS-4701-ENG |
| Practice Guide for Using Long-Term Foster Care (DHS 4862) | DHS publication that explains that long-term foster care should be used on a limited basis. Outlines the statutory requirements for long-term foster care. | http://edocs.dhs.state.mn.us/lfserver/Legacy/DHS-4862-ENG |
| Practice Guide for Working with Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning/Queer Youth (DHS 6500) | DHS publication that intends to increase awareness, knowledge and skills of social workers and administrators in the child welfare system so they may effectively and competently meet the needs of these youth and their families. | https://edocs.dhs.state.mn.us/lfserver/Public/DHS-6500-ENG |
| Procedures for Emergency Relative Placements, DHS Policy Bulletin #11-68-05 | DHS publication that guides county social services agencies on the procedures for emergency relative placements, consistent with Minnesota statutes, to place a child with an unlicensed relative. | http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/main/groups/publications/documents/pub/dhs16_163072.pdf |
| Program Improvement Plan (PIP) Tips | DHS publications that promote best practices on topics measured in federal Child and Family Service Reviews (CFSR). | http://mn.gov/dhs/ Click on: Partners and Providers Click on: Counties and Tribes Click on: CountyLink website Click on: DHS Program Resources Click on: Child Protection/Welfare Sup Click on: Qlty Improvement Practices Click on: PIP Resources [under Program Improvement Plan Development] |
| Promoting Placement Stability in the Context of Permanency Planning | 11 th Annual IV-E VPC Conference hosted by the CASCW, School of Social Work, University of Minnesota. Guest speaker: Dr. Peter Pecora, Managing Director of Research Services, Casey Family Programs, and Professor of Social Work, University of Washington at Seattle. Includes archived VPC presentation and handouts. | www.cehd.umn.edu/ssw/cascw Click on: Events Click on: Past Events Click on: 2010 Conferences Forums & Events |
| Public/Private Adoption Initiative (PPAI) | DHS contracts with eight private adoption agencies to assist counties facilitate adoptions of children under guardianship of the commissioner. Agencies provide pre- and post-adoption services, including: recruit, train and home study prospective adoptive parents; child-specific recruitment; and placement support. Contact: Emily Palmer, DHS adoption contracts program consultant, | PPAI agencies ▪ Ampersand Families, www.ampersandfamilies.org , (612) 605-1904 ▪ Bethany Christian Services, www.bethany.org/plymouth , (763) 553-0344 or (866) 321-1964 |

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| | (651) 431-4712 or emily.palmer@state.mn.us . | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Children’s Home Society & Family Services, www.chsfs.org, (651) 646-7771 or (800) 952-9302 ▪ Family Focus, www.mnfamilyfocus.org, (612) 331-4429 ▪ HOPE Adoption & Family Services, Int., www.hopeadoptionsservices.org, (651) 439-2246 ▪ Kindred Family Services, www.kindredfamilyservices.org; (763) 271-1670 ▪ Lutheran Social Services, www.lssmn.org/adoption, (888) 205-3769 ▪ North Homes, www.northhomesinc.org, (218) 327-3000 or (888) 430-3055 |
| Relative Custody Assistance (DHS 4769) | DHS publication that explains the permanency option of transfer of permanent legal and physical custody, including financial benefits. | http://edocs.dhs.state.mn.us/lfserver/Legacy/DHS-4769-ENG |
| Resource Lists on Hot Topics in Child Welfare | NRCPPC’s resource list on 80 child welfare topics, including: adoption, Concurrent Permanency Planning, family search and engagement, foster care, ICWA, mental health, placement stability, post-permanency and post-adoption services, siblings, trauma-informed child welfare, and youth permanency. | http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/socwork/nrcfcp/hottopics.html |
| Sibling Decision Making Matrix | Sibling placement assessment tool developed as part of <i>The Sisters and Brothers Together Project</i> , a federal Adoption Opportunities grant (#90-CO-0821). Available in the project’s final report, Appendix B, pages 55-63. | http://www.childwelfare.gov Search: “The Sisters and Brothers Together Project” Click on: Promising Approaches for Working with Sibling Groups Click on: State and local examples Scroll down to The Sisters and Brothers Together Project Click on: View Abstract Click on Download to view printable version |
| Social Services Information System (SSIS) | | Helpdesk: (651) 431-4801 or ssishelp@state.mn.us |
| Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS), DHS Policy Bulletin #12-68-20 | DHS publication that explains Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS), which provides relief for undocumented children in foster care, and is a route to legal immigration status and permanency for children in foster care. | http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/main/groups/publications/documents/pub/dhs16_173281.pdf |
| SSIS Training Module – Adoption | DHS publication that outlines the steps required in SSIS for an adoption case. | http://mn.gov/dhs/ Click on: Partners and Providers |

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| | | <p>Click on: Counties and Tribes</p> <p>Click on: CountyLink website</p> <p>Click on: DHS Systems & IT Updates</p> <p>Click on: SSIS</p> <p>Under Training, click on: Documentation</p> <p>Scroll and click to open: Adoptions module [under Adoption – County and Tribal]</p> |
| Summary of 2012 Child and Family Services Legislation, DHS Policy Bulletin #12-68-07 | DHS publication that explains 2012 statutory changes related to adoption of children under guardianship of the commissioner, foster care, adolescent services, child protection, and Safe Place for Newborns. | http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/main/groups/publications/documents/pub/dhs16_169947.pdf |
| Summary of 2012 Adoption Assistance Legislation, DHS Policy Bulletin #12-68-08 | DHS publication that explains 2012 statutory changes related to adoption assistance. | http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/main/groups/publications/documents/pub/dhs16_169948.pdf |
| Things People Never Told Me | Publication by Better Futures Project, Research and Training Center for Pathways to Positive Futures, Portland State University, that provides advice for youth transitioning out of foster care. | http://www.pathwaysrtc.pdx.edu/pdf/proj2-ThingsNoOneToldMe.pdf |
| Tools for Permanency, Tool #4: Kinship Care | Publication that assists placing workers evaluate whether or not kinship care is an option in any particular case. | <p>http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/socwork/nrcfcpp/info_services/kinship-relative-care.html</p> <p>Scroll down to Tools and Resources and click to open: Tools for Permanency – Kinship Care</p> |
| Transition Toolkit | Foster Club’s free tool for developing a youth-driven transition plan with a team approach, in compliance with Fostering Connections. The extensive transition toolkit helps youth and their team of adult supporters take inventory of the youth’s current assets, identify resources, and map out a plan for the challenges after foster care. | http://www.fosterclub.com/files/transition_toolkit_v3.pdf |
| Trauma-Informed Child Welfare Practice | Winter 2013 issue of the CASCW’s CW 360 publication, in partnership with Ambit Network, that addresses how to incorporate trauma-informed organizational and practice strategies into child welfare practice. | http://www.cehd.umn.edu/ssw/cascw/attributes/PDF/publications/CW360-Ambit_Winter2013.pdf |
| Tuition Waivers | Youth who emancipated from foster care under the guardianship of the commissioner of Human Services may be eligible to have their tuition waived if they are attending a Minnesota State College or University (MnSCU) school. Tuition waivers are granted at the discretion of the president of each school. See MnSCU System Procedures, Chapter 5 – Administration, Procedure 5.12.2. | http://www.mnscu.edu/board/procedure/512p2.html |

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| <i>Unpacking the “NO” of Permanency for Older Adolescents</i> | Archived webcast and related PowerPoint by the NRCPFC on social work best practice for working with older youth to achieve permanency. | http://www.nrcpfc.org/webcasts/27.html http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/socwork/nrcfcpp/info_services/download/Florida.unpacking.11.08.pdf |
| <i>U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Children’s Bureau</i> | AFCARS data, laws and policies, research and best practices, and information and resources related to child welfare. | www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb |
| <i>We Interrupt: Waiting Teens Talk About Adoption</i> | Foster youth and former foster youth who have been adopted talk about issues related to permanency and adoption. Produced by the Minnesota Adoption Resource Network, with funding by the Minnesota Department of Human Services. | Part 1: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=InCtQdqaSqY Part 2: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5gcZE4T0tuo |
| <i>Well-being Resources</i> | NRCPFC’s resource list on the child welfare topic of well-being, the third key principle embodied in the Adoption and Safe Families Act, along with safety and permanency. | http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/socwork/nrcfcpp/info_services/well-being.html |
| <i>Will You Care for the Children?</i> | DHS publication that provides information for permanent resource families, foster families and adoptive families in Minnesota. | http://edocs.dhs.state.mn.us/lfserver/Legacy/DHS-3497B-ENG |
| <i>Youth Connections Scale</i> | Assessment tool to evaluate and measure the permanent, supportive connections for youth in foster care and to guide agency case planning around strengthening youth connections to caring adults. Developed by the CASCW at the University of Minnesota in partnership with Anu Family Services. | http://www.cehd.umn.edu/ssw/cascw/research/YCS/default.html |
| <i>Youth Permanency Hot Topics Webpage</i> | NRCPFC’s webpage devoted to guides and practice resources, “Unpacking the No” and other relevant curricula, and other information related to older youth permanency. | http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/socwork/nrcfcpp/info_services/youth-permanency.html |