

## 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.



### SAFETY PLAN

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



### 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.



### FAMILY TEAM MEETINGS

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

## Your Local DCFS Offices

10008 S. Creek Run Way  
Sandy, UT  
801-253-5720

1385 S. State Street  
Salt Lake City, UT  
801-488-2620

2655 S. Lake Erie Drive  
West Valley City, UT  
801-952-4100

305 N. Main Street  
Tooele, UT  
435-833-7350

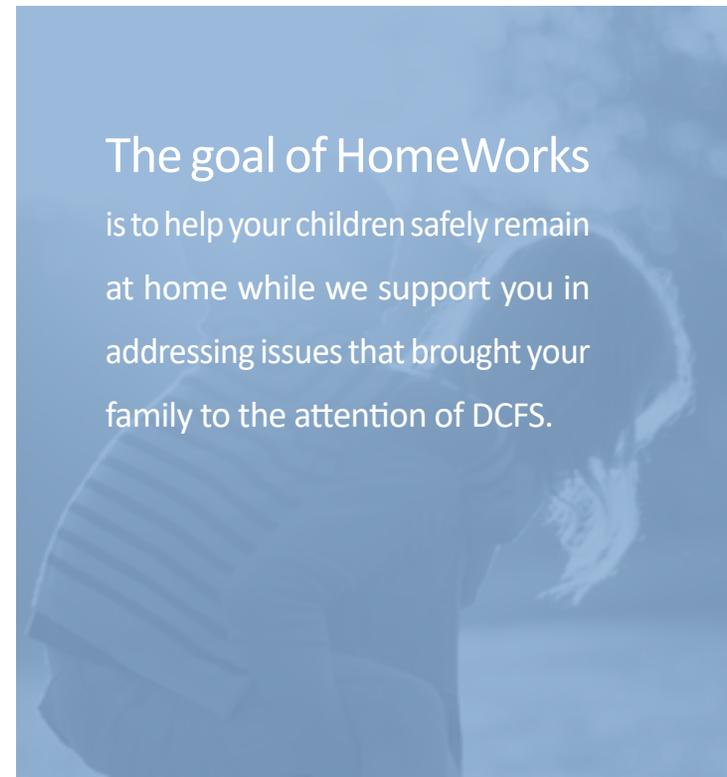
Intake Hotline (for reporting  
child abuse or neglect):  
1-855-323-3237

utah department of  
**human services**  
Child and Family Services



## A FAMILY GUIDE TO DCFS IN-HOME SERVICES

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



## What happens next?

A concern was identified in your family by Child Protective Services (CPS) or the court. We want to help you understand how the Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) will work with you.

Your family appears to be a good candidate for HomeWorks, a service which allows you to make needed changes in your family while your children live at home and are kept safe from abuse or neglect.

## 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 children.
- Strengthen your family.
- Prevent the need for foster care.

## 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 services are court ordered and your family refuses to engage in those services, then there is the potential for court sanctions.

With either court-ordered or non-court services, if there is a safety issue and the family is unable or unwilling to effectively safety plan, this could result in the children 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:**  
Bounce back from challenges.



**SOCIAL CONNECTIONS:**  
Have a helpful social support system.



**KNOWLEDGE OF PARENTING & CHILD DEVELOPMENT:**  
Learn to be your child's expert.



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



**SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL COMPETENCE OF CHILDREN:**  
Help children manage feelings & relationships.

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

### NON-COURT

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

### COURT-ORDERED

- Involve a juvenile court judge and include regular court hearings.
- A 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.

## What services 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 children at least once a month.
3. Your caseworker may ask to involve a non-custodial parent as part of your case.
4. Your caseworker will work with you to complete assessments and develop plans that guide your DCFS services.
5. You and your team will decide on services that address the needs of your family. These may include therapy, parenting classes, employment, and housing.
6. If drugs or alcohol were concerns in your CPS investigation, you will be asked to complete regular drug tests as well as further assessment and treatment.
7. Decisions about when it is appropriate for DCFS services to end will be made by your team and any legal partners involved, and will be based on behavioral changes.