

STATE OF WISCONSIN
Department of Health and Family Services
Division of Children and Family Services

DCFS Memo Series 2007 -01
February 1, 2007

Re: Locating and Involving Non-
Custodial Parents, Alleged
Fathers and Other Relatives

To: Area Administrators/ Human Services Area Coordinators
Bureau Directors
County Departments of Community Programs Directors
County Departments of Developmental Disabilities
Services Directors
County Departments of Human Services Directors
County Departments of Social Services Directors
Licensing Chiefs/Section Chiefs
Tribal Chairpersons/Human Services Facilitators

From: William R. Fiss *William R. Fiss*
Interim Administrator

As part of the federal Children and Family Service Review (CFSR), the Department of Health and Family Services (DHFS), Division of Children and Family Services (DCFS), has been working on ways to address barriers to identifying and involving non-custodial parents, alleged fathers, and relatives as resources for children.

Research shows that children who are removed from the caregivers and placed into out-of-home care often experience loss and trauma as a result of being separated from their family. When children are able to stay connected to their families they experience more placement stability and shorter stays in out-of-home care. In addition, by including the natural support systems, families are provided more lasting supports and children have better long-term outcomes when the child welfare system is no longer involved.

The attached policy was developed by the Program Enhancement Plan (PEP) Out-of-Home Care Committee and provides minimum standards, guidance and tools which will assist agencies in identifying, locating and involving non-custodial parents, alleged fathers and relatives as resources for children, particularly children who have been removed from the home.

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MEMO WEB SITE: <http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/memos/>

Attachment: [Practice Guide for Locating and Involving Non-Custodial Parents, Alleged Fathers and Relatives](#)

#memo/dcfs/locating involving no-custodial parents.doc