

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

CHILDREN'S DIVISION

P. O. BOX 88

JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI

May 1, 2019

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: CHILDREN'S DIVISION AND CONTRACTED STAFF

FROM: DAVID KURT, DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: Introduction to the Missouri Practice Model Policy

DISCUSSION:

The purpose of this memorandum is to introduce staff to new policy on the Missouri Practice Model. This policy replaces the current Section 1 in the Child Welfare Manual.

This policy covers general topics that cross all program lines in relation to the practice model. Further revisions to the Child Welfare Manual will be forthcoming.

Topics in Section 1 include:

- Practice Model Overview
- Family Engagement
- Safety and Wellbeing through Trauma Informed Practice
- A Questioning Approach
- Understanding and Assessing Child Safety
- Case Mapping and Family Risk Assessment
- Engaging Children and Youth
- Creating Safety Networks
- Safety Planning
- Team Decision Making
- Case Planning Using Trajectories
- Case Closure

Supervisors and managers are strongly encouraged to review Section 1 with staff as this new policy lays the groundwork for working with families utilizing the practice model.

NECESSARY ACTION

1. Review this memorandum with all Children's Division staff.
2. Review revised Child Welfare Manual chapters as indicated below.
3. All questions should be cleared through normal supervisory channels and

directed to:	
PDS CONTACT Kara Wilcox-Bauer 573-526-9707 Kara.B.Wilcox-Bauer@dss.mo.gov	MANAGER CONTACT Tasha Toebben 573-526-3899 Tasha.Toebben@dss.mo.gov
CHILD WELFARE MANUAL REVISIONS Section 1	
FORMS AND INSTRUCTIONS N/A	
REFERENCE DOCUMENTS AND RESOURCES N/A	
RELATED STATUTE N/A	