

SUMMARY OF CHANGES
(Substantive Changes)
STATEMENT OF PURPOSE
SUMMARY EXPLANATION

Subject: Policy revisions to the Family Services Policy and Procedures (FSPP) Manual and Family Services Forms (FSF) Manual pertaining to Act 874.

Act 874

Act 874, “An Act Regarding the Placement of Children Removed From Their Homes or in The Custody of The Department of Human Services,” was passed in the current legislative session with an emergency clause. DCFS policy has been revised to reflect changes enacted under Act 874. The changes allows DHS to place a child with a relative (after an expedited written approved home study is conducted by DCFS) as a provisional foster home for up to six (6) months until the home can meet all of the requirements for approval as a DCFS Foster home and is opened as a foster home.

Policy revisions pertaining to Act 874 are located at Procedure (II-E10): Protective Custody of Child in Immediate Danger, Policy (VI-A): Out-Of-Home Placement Criteria, & Procedure (VI-A1): Out-of-Home Placement Criteria.

Procedure (II-E10) – Added the option that a child can be placed in a Provisional Relative Foster Home if a relative is identified and it is in the best interest of the child.
Policy (VI-A): Out-Of-Home Placement Criteria - Added information defining what is a Provisional Relative Foster Home, who is a relative, the time frame for the child to be placed in the Provisional Relative Foster Home and the minimum requirements to be a Provisional Relative Foster Home.

Procedure (VI-A1): Out-of-Home Placement Criteria – Added procedures and CHRIS instructions to place a child with a relative (after an expedited written approved home study is conducted by DCFS) as a provisional foster home for up to six (6) months until the home can meet all of the requirements for approval as a DCFS Foster home and is opened as a foster home.

New form developed to comply with policy changes related to Act 874.

CFS-474 (Provisional Foster Home Orientation Checklist) – **developed to ensure that all the required subjects have been covered with the relative when a provisional foster home is being opened.** A new form is developed to comply with Act 1573: CFS-344B to conduct Criminal Background checks Foster Parent Criminal Record Check.