

Commonly Used Acronyms and their Meaning

NAME	DEFINITION	TYPE
AA	Alcoholics Anonymous. A worldwide program supporting alcoholics in recovery from their disease.	Service
AA	Administrative Assistant. An individual providing support services for an administrator.	Term
ADD	Attention Deficit Disorder A disorder that occurs when children display inappropriate inattention, impulsivity and sometimes hyperactivity for their mental and chronological age.	Medical
ADHD	Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder A disorder characterized by hyperactivity, distractibility, and impulsivity.	Medical
Advocate	An individual, agency or group supporting and speaking for victims who may not otherwise be able to speak for themselves.	Term
AFCARS	Adoption and Foster Care Automated Reporting System Foster care and adoption information reported to the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) through AFCARS is the only federal national data available regarding the children in foster care and the children adopted under the auspices of a state agency. All states are required to report child-specific information to ACF semiannually through AFCARS	System
AG	Attorney General The chief law enforcement officer of a state, responsible for advising state or nation of legal matters.	Agency
AHA	American Humane Association The mission of the American Humane Association, as a network of individuals and organizations, is to prevent cruelty, abuse, neglect, and exploitation of children and animals and to assure that their interests and well-being are fully, effectively, and humanely guaranteed by an aware and caring society.	Organization
AIS	Adoption Information Specialist Individuals helping the families of Iowa successfully meet the challenge of parenting their adopted children through (1) Telephone Support; (2) Educational Materials; (3) Training Opportunities; (4) Knowledge on available services; (5) Connections to other adoptive families; (6) Support Groups and (7) Follow-up Information	Term
ALANON	A worldwide program supporting partners in relationships with addicts.	Service
ASFA	Adoption and Safe Families Act The purpose of the ASFA is to speed up the legal process. The primary purpose of the law was to shorten the length of time a child spends in foster care and speed up the process of freeing children for adoption. ASFA places primary importance upon the safety of	Federal Act

NAME	DEFINITION	TYPE
	the child. This is a change from the focus upon keeping the family together and/or having the goal of reunification of the family, regardless of how long or what the probability of that reunification was going to be. AFSA was intended to correct such problems as: (1) children remaining in foster care for years, and in some cases most of their lives (2) a case being heard by different judges over the life of the case (3) the necessity of the social services system to provide a wide variety of services even in light of the failure of the parent to successfully complete the offered programs (4) persons with criminal backgrounds able to be foster and adoptive parents (now applicants must have their fingerprints taken and criminal records searched)	
BDPS	Behavioral, Developmental and Protective Services With the Iowa Department of Human Services, this service is responsible for program and policy in child protection, foster care, permanency, and adoptions as well as child care regulation, juvenile institutions, delinquency programs, dependent adult protection, mental health and developmental disability services for adults and children, family planning, and teen pregnancy prevention.	DHS Term
BEP	Batterer's Education Program A court ordered educational program for persons convicted of domestic abuse.	Service
BSW	Bachelor of Social Work A 4-year course of study in social work to prepare students for beginning professional social work practice in public and private social services such as public welfare, child welfare, health, mental health, elderly services, and corrections. It also provides a base for graduate study in social work or allied professions.	Term
CA	County Attorney An elected official empowered to take legal action in county interests including criminal or abusive behavior.	Agency
CASA	Court Appointed Special Advocates An adult volunteer trained to represent the best interests of abused and neglected children in juvenile court proceedings.	Service
Case Worker	An individual designated to co-ordinate activities for a successful outcome of collaborative interventions and services.	Term
CCA	Community Action Agencies These agencies serve as advocates for low-income, elderly, and disabled residents of Iowa. There are 18 local CAA's serving all 99 counties	Agency
CDRT	Child Death Review Team The Iowa Child Death Review Team reviews all records pertinent to the deaths of children ages 17 and younger, in order to recommend to the legislature and the public initiatives and changes that will reduce or prevent such deaths in the future. The Team is composed of fourteen members representing a broad spectrum of medical, legal and social disciplines and seven liaisons from state government departments.	Term

NAME	DEFINITION	TYPE
CEU	<p>Continuing Education Unit The Continuing Education Unit (CEU) is a nationally recognized unit of measurement for noncredit continuing education programs. It is designed to document learning experiences that are valid in their own right but differ from experiences for which academic credits are traditionally awarded.</p> <p>One CEU is defined as representing ten (10) contact hours of participation in an organized continuing education experience under responsible sponsorship, capable direction, and qualified instruction. CEUs are based on 60-minute hours. This means that 0.1 CEU is granted for every 60 minutes of actual classroom time. This does not include breaks, registration times, introductory periods, evaluation times, etc.</p>	Term
CFI	<p>Children and Families of Iowa CFI A private nonprofit human service agency headquartered in Des Moines and offering programs in Ankeny, Centerville, Creston, and Fort Dodge.</p>	Agency
CFSR	<p>Child and Family Service Review The federal Child and Family Service Review (CFSR) process is a relatively new, results-based system of federal oversight of state child welfare systems. The CFSRs are intended to hold states accountable for achieving seven outcomes in the broad domains of child safety, permanency and well-being.</p>	Federal Term
Child Welfare	<p>The system that helps families provide safe homes for children. Child welfare includes “preventative services” which help support families that are “at-risk” for having their children removed. It also includes foster care and adoption.</p>	Term
CINA	<p>Child in Need of Assistance A court proceeding in which the Department of Human Services and the County Attorney can secure legal action to protect children including supervision, family support and education, and out of home placement.</p>	Intervention
CINCF	<p>Community Initiative for Native American Children and Families An organization of several Native American tribal representatives and advocates to incorporate the Iowa Indian Child Welfare Act into Iowa’s child welfare practice</p>	DHS Term
CIP	<p>Court Improvement Project A federally funded project to improve court practice in child abuse and neglect cases. The Chief Justice appoints an advisory committee to help the project define priority areas for improvement.</p>	Federal Term
CJCO	<p>Chief Juvenile Court Officers The chief juvenile court officers participate in developing an annual child welfare and juvenile justice plan for using decategorized funds within each department region. The respective chief juvenile court officers and department regional administrator sign the child welfare and juvenile justice plan.</p>	Legal Term

NAME	DEFINITION	TYPE
CJJP	Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning Division CJJP administers grant programs to fund local and state projects to prevent juvenile crime, provide services to juvenile offenders and otherwise improve Iowa's juvenile justice system. CJJP staff provide a justice system information clearinghouse service to system officials and the general public.	Service
Coalition	An organized group of people in a community working toward a common goal. The coalition can have individual, group, institutional, community, and public policy goals. Assessment may examine coalition structure, function, quality of leadership, plan quality, or other factors.	Term
CODA	Co-dependants Anonymous. A worldwide program supporting codependents in recovery from their non-productive behaviors.	Service
Co-Dep	Co-Dependant. An individual subverting their day-to-day lives in order to provide care or otherwise protect a dysfunctional partner.	Term
Collaborate	To unite individuals together in a formal or non-formal group; to take a partnership in a project by teaming up to share ideas for the greater purpose of a common goal.	Term
Concurrent Planning	The caseworker plans for the child to return home to the parent, at the same time as planning for the possibility that the goal could change to adoption or something else.	DHS Term
Confirmed Report	When the Department determines by a preponderance of credible evidence (greater than 50%) that child abuse has occurred.	DHS Term
Coordinator	An individual responsible for ensuring positive outcomes of any given activity.	Term
Counselor	A general term for someone who provides professional help in coping with life issues such as emotional and relationship difficulties; sometimes used interchangeably with "therapist"	Term
CP	Community Partner. Generally an individual representing an agency or service from within the local community sharing overarching goals with other community partners.	CPPC Term
CPAC	Community Partnership Advisory Committee This committee, made up of one representative from each Community Partnership site, is responsible for the on-going coordination of CPPC in Iowa. Participants attend four regional and two statewide meetings each year. Participants report back to their local shared decision-making groups.	Initiative
CPC	Child Protection Council Oversight committee of the Iowa Court Improvement Project.	Agency
CPC	Central Point of Coordination The administrative "gatekeeper" for service requests within each of the 99 Iowa counties. All service requests must go through the CPC and be approved by the CPC for funding.	
CPCA	Central Point of Coordination Administrator The county administrator is the person	Agency

NAME	DEFINITION	TYPE
	responsible for determining the eligibility of applicants and approving or denying service requests. This is also called the "single point of entry" because all applications are forwarded to this one point for review and approval.	
CPEC	Community Partnership Executive Committee A committee made up of Community Partnership Advisory Committee members, Department of Human Services administrative staff, an Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence representative, and a non-CPPC site. Its role is to develop strategies for the continuation of statewide CPPC implementation and to strengthen CPPC statewide policy.	Initiative
CPPC	Community Partnerships for Protecting Children CPPC or CP A concept that shares the responsibility for preventing and addressing child abuse and neglect between service providers and local communities.	Initiative
CPS	Child Protective Services The area of DHS devoted to the safety of children and the reduction and/or reoccurrence of child abuse and neglect	Agency
CPTA	Child Protective Training Academy The CPTA provides child protection workers consistent, competency-based training taught by professionals in the field of child abuse. Basic courses allow workers to gain basic skills required to perform their job duties, and then build upon those skills with advanced courses and seminars.	Service
CPW	Child Protective Worker A person designated by DHS to perform an assessment in response to a report of child abuse.	DHS Term
CWIS	Child Welfare Information System A comprehensive automated case management tool that supports social workers' foster care and adoptions assistance case management practice.	Federal Term
DAIS	Domestic Abuse Intervention Services Court ordered educational program for persons convicted of domestic abuse.	Program
DART	Domestic Assault Response Team A team of persons consisting of a special prosecutor, law enforcement investigator or team of investigators and a victim advocate to assist in the investigation, prosecution, and advocacy of domestic assault cases.	Coalition
DBDPS	Division of Behavioral, Developmental and Protective Services The policy making section of DHS for children and adults in need of protection and/or mental health services.	DHS Term
DCC	Denial of Critical Care Failure of a guardian to provide adequate food, shelter, clothing, supervision, or medical or mental health care when financially able to do so.	DHS Term
Assessment	The process by which the DHS carries out its legal mandate to: (1) Ascertain if child abuse has	DHS Term

NAME	DEFINITION	TYPE
	<p>occurred. (2) Record findings. (3) Develop conclusions based upon credible evidence. (4) Address the safety of the child. (5) Address the family functioning. (6) Engage the family in appropriate services.</p> <p>(7) Enhance family strengths and meet identified needs in a culturally sensitive manner.</p>	
DD	<p>Dual Diagnosis A person who has both an alcohol and/or drug problem and an emotional/psychiatric problem. To recover fully the person needs treatment for both problems.</p>	Medical Term
DD	<p>Developmentally Delayed A clinical term referring to individuals who may appear to have physical or mental development concerns.</p>	Medical Term
DD	<p>Developmental Disabilities A chronic disability of a person that is attributable to mental or physical impairment or a combination of impairments; is manifested before the person attains age 22; is likely to continue indefinitely; results in substantial functional limitations in three or more of the following areas of major life activity: self-care, receptive and expressive language, learning, mobility, self-direction, capacity for independent living, economic self-sufficiency; and reflects the person's need for a combination and sequence of special interdisciplinary or generic care treatment or other services that are of lifelong or extended duration and are individually planned and coordinated.</p>	Medical Term
DECAT	<p>De Catagorizaton (see Empowerment) Established by state legislative action in 1998 to create a partnership between local communities and state government with an initial emphasis to improve the well being of families with young children.</p> <p>Decategorization refers to State-level efforts to reduce or eliminate categorical requirements on how funds are spent. This reduction in requirements is often created in exchange for greater accountability for a set of negotiated outcomes.</p>	Program
DHHS	<p>Department of Health and Human Services (<i>See HHS</i>) One of the largest federal agencies, the Department of Health and Human Services is the principal agency for protecting the health of all Americans. Comprising 12 operating divisions, HHS' responsibilities include public health, biomedical research, Medicare and Medicaid, welfare, social services, and more.</p>	Federal Agency
DHS	<p>Department of Human Services The Mission of the Iowa Department of Human Services is to help individuals and families achieve safe, stable, self-sufficient, and healthy lives, thereby contributing to the economic growth of the state.</p>	State Agency
DHS	<p>Department of Human Services The statewide entity that provides basic services and supports to help all Iowans become healthy, safe, stable, and self-sufficient.</p>	DHS Term

NAME	DEFINITION	TYPE
DIA	Department of Inspections and Appeals The Department of Inspections and Appeals (DIA) is charged with protecting the health, safety and well being of Iowans. The agency is responsible for inspecting, licensing and/or certifying health care providers and suppliers, restaurants and grocery stores, social and charitable gambling operations, hotels and motels, and barber and beauty shops. In addition, DIA staff investigates alleged fraud in the State's public assistance programs.	State Agency
DPH	Iowa Department of Public Health IDPH, PH, DPH The state agency that provides general supervision of the states public health, promotes public hygiene and sanitation, does health promotion activities, prepares for and responds to bio-emergency situations and, unless otherwise provided, enforces laws on public health.	Agency
DV	Domestic Violence Behavior used by one person in a relationship to control the other. Partners may be married or not, heterosexual gay or lesbian; living together, separated, or dating.	Term
Edna McConnell Clark Foundation	Edna McConnell Clark Foundation For the past 30 years, the Foundation has been committed to improving the lives of people from low-income communities. Today the Foundation pursues its mission by helping high-performing nonprofit organizations increase their capacity to serve more young people from low-income backgrounds with quality programs during out-of-school time.	Initiative
Empowerment	Empowerment Established by state legislative action in 1998 to create a partnership between local communities and state government with an initial emphasis to improve the well being of families with young children.	Program
EPSDT	Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Testing Medicaid's comprehensive and preventive child health program for individuals under the age of 21. The program consists of two components: <i>(1) assuring the availability and accessibility of required health care resources; and (2) helping Medicaid recipients and their parents or guardians effectively use these resources.</i>	Term
FACS	Family and Children's Services Promotes and represents the interests of member agencies in improving the quality of life for children and families.	Services
FaDSS	Family Development and Self-Sufficiency A holistic, strength-based in-home family program that focuses on preventive services and facilitates long-term change to families receiving Family Investment Program benefits.	Intervention
Family	A family is defined as family members making up or comprising of the household where the alleged child victim of the abuse resides.	DHS Term
FAS	Fetal Alcohol Syndrome. A birth defect resulting from alcohol ingestion during pregnancy	Medical Term
FIA	Family Investment Agreement A written, signed statement of the actions a family will take to	Agency

NAME	DEFINITION	TYPE
	achieve self-sufficiency.	
FIP	Family Investment Program Administered by DHS, this program provides cash assistance to low-income families that meet program requirements.	DHS Service
FO	Field Operations The DHS service delivery system is provided through field workers who deliver and coordinate an array of social services and economic assistance to children and families through department offices located in each county.	Services
FOSU	Field Operations Support Unit The eight service area administrators and the centralized Field Operations Support Unit support the field workers.	DHS Term
Founded Report	When a preponderance of credible evidence (greater than 50%) indicates that child abuse occurred and the circumstances meet the criteria for placement on the Central Abuse Registry. (Iowa Code Section 232.71D, 441 IAC 175.39(232))	DHS Term
FTDM	Family Team Decision-Making. The current “best practice” in addressing child and family welfare issues and concerns. The collaboration between DHS, CPS, et al., and other agencies and services is the hallmark of this practice.	Strategy
FTM	Family Team Meeting A process in which family members, friends, community specialists and other interested parties create a plan for the care and protection of a family’s children and help strengthen the family network.	Initiative Strategy
FVRT	Family Violence Response Team A community multidisciplinary team responding to the co-occurrence of domestic violence and child abuse.	Coalition
FY	Fiscal Year A 12-month period for which an organization plans the use of its funds. The Federal FY is October 1 to September 30. Iowa’s fiscal year begins July 1 and ends June 30.	Term
GAL	Guardian Ad Litem The person appointed by the court to look out for the best interests of the child during the course of legal proceedings.	Legal Term
Guardianship	The formal legal arrangement granting an adult the right to act on behalf of a child. Guardianship allows greater decision making than custody. A guardian may apply for income support for the care of the child.	DHS Term
HAWK-I	Healthy and Well Kids in Iowa A program that provides health coverage for Iowa children in families with limited incomes.	Program
HFI	Healthy Families Iowa This program provides services to families and children during the prenatal through preschool years (identified as <i>Health Opportunities for Parents to Experience Success HOPES</i>). The purpose of this program is to promote optimal child health and development,	Initiative

NAME	DEFINITION	TYPE
	improve family coping skills and functioning, promote positive parenting skills and intrafamilial interaction, and to prevent child abuse and neglect and infant mortality and morbidity.	
HHS	Health and Human Services (See DHHS) One of the largest federal agencies, the Department of Health and Human Services is the principal agency for protecting the health of all Americans. Comprising 12 operating divisions, HHS' responsibilities include public health, biomedical research, Medicare and Medicaid, welfare, social services, and more.	Agency
HOPES	Healthy Opportunities for Parents to Experience Success A program, also known as Healthy Families Iowa, that offers professional home visiting services to Iowa families while the mother is expectant or soon after birth. Family support workers build on family strengths while addressing needs identified by the family.	Program
HSAA	Human Service Area Administrator Former term for Service Area Manager see SAM	Term
IAC	Iowa Administrative Code A composite of all laws passed by the Iowa General Assembly.	Source
IAES	Iowa Adoption Exchange System A computerized system established to facilitate the adoptive placement of children by matching children legally available for placement and approved families desiring to adopt a child with special needs or a sibling group and referring all families to the child's adoption worker. IAES is operated by the Department of Human Services through the FACS system.	Service
ICA	Individual Course of Action (see FTM & FTDM)	Intervention
ICADV	Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence A coalition with the mission to end violence in intimate relationships through assistance and education programs that serve battered women and their children.	Agency
ICAPPA	Iowa Child Abuse Prevention Program A legislatively appropriated statewide program to prevent child abuse. Programs delivered through local Child Abuse Prevention Councils are present in 88 counties in Iowa.	Program
ICFCRB	Iowa Citizen Foster Care Review Board The Board empowers the citizens of Iowa to review cases, collect data, and recommend changes to promote the safety and permanency of children who have been removed from the homes of their families. The seven member Board meets on a monthly basis once a month to review, report, and makes recommendations regarding children in foster care.	Service
ICN	Iowa Communication Network The <i>Iowa Communications Network</i> is a state agency that administers a statewide fiber optics network. The Network enables authorized users such as hospitals, state and federal government, public defense armories, libraries, schools, and higher	Term

NAME	DEFINITION	TYPE
	education, to communicate via high quality, full-motion video; high-speed Internet connections; and telephones.	
ICWA	Indian Child Welfare Act This 1978 Federal law takes precedence over the local adoption laws of every state and gives Native American Indian Nations and Tribes, the right to control adoptions that involve their tribal members, the children of their tribal members, those individuals that could become tribal members, or those individuals that a tribe would otherwise recognize. Additionally, the act also provides that an Indian child has an independent right to grow up with an active knowledge of its cultural roots and an opportunity to be involved in its Indian culture and heritage.	Legal Term
IDED	Iowa Department of Economic Development Three divisions (Business Development, Community Development, and Administration) with the mission to improve the economic well being of Iowa by working with businesses and communities to strengthen their foundations for growth.	Agency
IDHS	Iowa Department of Human Services The mission is to help individuals and families achieve safe, stable, self-sufficient, and healthy lives, thereby contributing to the economic growth of the state. We do this by keeping a customer focus, striving for excellence, sound stewardship of state resources, maximizing the use of federal funding and leveraging opportunities, and by working with our public and private partners to achieve results.	Agency
IDPH	Iowa Department of Public Health IDPH, PH, DPH The state agency that provides general supervision of the states public health, promotes public hygiene and sanitation, does health promotion activities, prepares for and responds to bio-emergency situations and, unless otherwise provided, enforces laws on public health.	Agency
IFAPA	Iowa Foster and Adoptive Parents Association The Association recruits and retains quality foster and adoptive families by promoting support, training and public awareness in conjunction with other public and private organizations. IFAPA advocates for foster and adopted children and families. The Iowa Foster and Adoptive Parents Association's vision is to provide leadership in Iowa to insure that every child has a secure, loving and stable family.	Service
IFMC	Iowa Foundation for Medical Care Founded in 1971, the goal is to optimize the quality of medical care and health through collaborative relationships, education, and health information management. Principles feature ensuring high quality and cost-effective health care.	Agency
IFRN	Iowa Family Resource Network A partnership between Iowa Department of Human Services, Iowa Respite and Crisis Care Coalition, Parents Anonymous of Iowa, Inc. and Prevent Child Abuse Iowa to provide collaborative leadership that improves policies, programs and community support	Coalition

NAME	DEFINITION	TYPE
	for Iowa's children, families and their well being.	
IITS	Iowa Interagency Training System A state program to manage and maintain enrollments, cancellations, course information, and employee training history.	Service
IM / IMA	Income Maintenance (Administration) The mission is to determine the eligibility of applicants and to recertify the eligibility of recipients for federal and District-funded assistance programs, and to help heads of households receiving TANF benefits to become employed and move toward financial independence. IMA determines eligibility for benefits under the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), Medicaid and DC Healthy Families, Food Stamps, and General Public Assistance for Children, Burial Assistance, and Interim Disability Assistance and Refugee Cash Assistance programs.	DHS Term
Intervention	A manipulation (such as a substance abuse prevention program or campaign) exposed to a population in order to change knowledge, attitudes, beliefs, or behaviors. In substance abuse prevention, interventions at the individual or policy level may be used to prevent or lower the rate of substance use or related problems.	Term
ISU	Iowa State University - Iowa State University of Science and Technology A public land-grant institution serving people through its interrelated programs of instruction, research, extension, and professional service. With an institutional emphasis upon areas related to science and technology, the University carries out its traditional mission of discovering, developing, disseminating, and preserving knowledge.	Term
IT	Information Technology The development, installation, implementation and support of computer systems and applications.	Term
ITP	Individualized Treatment Plan (see also ICA)	Strategy
JCO	Juvenile Court Officer Handles selected matters pertaining to children coming under the purview of Chapter 232 including intake, diversion, restitution and prevention.	Term
JCS	Juvenile Court Services Juvenile court services includes a chief juvenile court officer, juvenile court officers, and support staff for each of the eight judicial districts. Juvenile court service is responsible for making recommendations to the juvenile court regarding temporary custody and detention, prepares investigations, appears in court on behalf of the child and community, implements all juvenile court orders and dispositions, coordinates services provided by various agencies, monitors custodial arrangements and services provided by public and private social agencies.	Services
Kinship Care	When a relative steps in to care for a child when the parent is unable to do so.	DHS Term

NAME	DEFINITION	TYPE
LBP	Limited Benefit Plan If an individual participant fails to enter into a FIA, or does not fulfill the terms of the FIA, the individual and usually the individuals family enters into a LBP.	Agency
LCSW	Licensed Clinical Social Worker An individual providing services without supervision for the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of mental and emotional disorders in individuals, families, and groups to restore, maintain, and enhance social functioning through treatment interventions.	Term
LD	Learning Disorder A disorder in one or more of the basic psychological processes involved in understanding or in using language spoken or written that may manifest itself in an imperfect ability to listen, think, speak, read, write, spell or do mathematical calculations, including conditions such as perceptual disabilities, brain injury, minimal brain dysfunction, dyslexia and developmental aphasia.	Term
LE	Law Enforcement Local police officers, county sheriff's officers, and statewide highway patrol officers.	Agency
Liaison	An individual facilitating communications between various individuals and/or agencies.	Term
LiHEAP	Low-income Home Energy Assistance An assistance program designed to assist low-income families meet the cost of home heating. Applications are accepted on a first come first served basis at local community action agencies from Nov. 1 to April 15 (October 1 for households with elderly/disabled members).	Program
LISW	Licensed Independent Social Worker A certified independent social worker may evaluate and intervene in complex difficulties in psychosocial functioning. A certified independent social worker may engage in psychotherapeutic activities only under the supervision of a person authorized by the board or by DHS to supervise the practice of clinical social work in a clinic setting.	Term
LPN	Licensed Practical Nurse A nurse who has completed a practical nursing program and is licensed by a state to provide routine patient care under the direction of a registered nurse or a physician.	Term
LSI	Lutheran Services of Iowa A statewide human service agency that serves individuals, couples, families, and children in need.	Agency
LSW	Licensed Social Worker A person who holds a license authorizing the practice of social work, which includes social services to individuals, groups or communities in any one or more of the fields of social casework, social group work, community organization for social welfare, social work research, social welfare administration or social work education.	Term
MAPP	Model Approach to Partnerships in Parenting A preparation program consisting of a series of	Term

NAME	DEFINITION	TYPE
	10 meetings totaling 30 classroom hours. Participants in the group include those families interested in adoption through DFCS, as well as those interested in foster parenting. The classes offer an opportunity to learn about a variety of topics pertinent to the adoption experience, including the children available, the impact of adoption on your family, behavior management techniques, the agency role and more. One aspect of MAPP involves the agency case manager meeting individually with your family to complete the assessment process and develop your Family Portfolio. This process includes visits in your home, gathering of information (such as medical reports, criminal records check, financial statement, etc.)	
MDT	Multidisciplinary Teams Groups of professionals from diverse disciplines who come together to provide comprehensive assessment and consultation in abuse cases.	Term
MEPA	Multiethnic Placement Act One of several recent federal initiatives and laws aimed at removing the barriers to permanency for the hundreds of thousands of children who are in the child protective system. The specific intentions are to: (1) decrease the length of time that children wait to be adopted, (2) facilitate the recruitment and retention of foster and adoptive parents who can meet the distinctive needs of children awaiting placement, and (3) eliminate discrimination on the basis of the race, color, or national origin of the child or the prospective parent.	Legal Term
MHDD	Mental Health Developmental Disability Any mental illness, mental retardation or other developmental disabilities, or brain injury where individuals require necessary, high quality services and supports to enable them to live, learn, work, recreate and otherwise contribute in their chosen communities.	Term
MSW	Master of Social Work A graduate program that involves specialized knowledge and concentrated study in social work and generally awarded for completion of a postgraduate course of one to two years in duration.	Term
NA	Narcotics Anonymous. A worldwide program supporting addicts in recovery from their disease.	Service
NCANDS	Neglect and Child Abuse National Data System A resource since 1988 to promote scholarly exchange among researchers in the child maltreatment field.	System
NCFAS	North Carolina Family Assessment Scale A tool used to determine how a family is functioning. This also may be important to determining the risk of out-of-home placement or successful reunification for a family in the context of family strengths and problems.	Tool
Networking	One of four strategies of the CPPC designed to bring community members together to identify similar goals among local/state/national interests.	CPPC Term
Not Confirmed	When the Department determines there was not a preponderance of credible evidence (greater than	DHS Term

NAME	DEFINITION	TYPE
	50%) to indicate that child abuse occurred. (Also known as unconfirmed)	
OA	Overeaters Anonymous. A worldwide program supporting persons recovering from dysfunctional eating patterns.	Service
OJT	On the Job Training Learning a job while doing the job in various stages.	Term
Open Adoption	A form of adoption in which the birth family and the adopted child enjoy an ongoing, in-person relationship over time.	DHS Term
PCAI	Prevent Child Abuse Iowa A state chapter of Prevent Child Abuse America, whose purpose is to build awareness, provide education and leadership to implement child abuse prevention efforts in the state.	Agency
Permanency Goal	What the child welfare agency thinks is the most realistic long-term living situation for the child. Possible goals include return to parent, adoption, legal guardianship, kinship care, or other planned permanent living arrangements.	DHS Term
Permanency Hearing	A meeting with a judge in family court to review a child’s permanency goal. The judge hears about services that have been provided and the progress that the parent and agency are making. Each child must have a permanency hearing no later than 12 months after he or she enters foster care, and not less than every 12-month thereafter while the child is in foster care.	DHS Term
PH	Iowa Department of Public Health IDPH, PH, DPH The state agency that provides general supervision of the states public health, promotes public hygiene and sanitation, does health promotion activities, prepares for and responds to bio-emergency situations and, unless otherwise provided, enforces laws on public health.	Agency
PMIC	Psychiatric Medical Institution for Children	Service
PS	Peer Support. One of four strategies of the CPPC designed to promote dialogue between interested parties having similar interests in order to efficiently problem solve and build upon previous peer success. This may occur at the local, state and/or national level.	Strategy
PSSF	Promoting Safe and Stable Families A program that funds community based services that prevent child abuse and neglect through parenting education, family strengthening services for troubled families, adoption services, and other preventative programs.	Program
PTSD	Post Traumatic Stress Disorder An anxiety disorder that is triggered by memories of a traumatic event that directly affected you or an event that you witnessed.	Medical Term
QSR	Quality Service Review Relating to families involved with DHS, an in-depth case review method focusing on the status of the individual child and family in term of safety, permanency and	Initiative

NAME	DEFINITION	TYPE
	well-being and the quality of system performance as it supports best practice.	
RBA	Results Based Accountability A concept about working backward from ends to means. For populations, the ends are improved conditions of well being for children, adults, families and communities. For programs and agencies, the ends are improved conditions of well-being for our clients or customers.	Term
Reunification	When a child is returned to a parent's care.	DHS Term
RN	Registered Nurse After graduating from a nursing school at either a community college or a four-year college, the student must take the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) to become a licensed registered nurse. A registered nurse is a person who practices professional nursing.	Term
RSVP	Retired Senior Volunteer Program A nationwide program which provides an opportunity for people 55 years of age and older to remain active and provide significant volunteer service in their local communities.	Program
RTS	Rehabilitation Treatment Services The objectives of rehabilitation services are to provide treatment or rehabilitation in the following areas: (1) Independent living training; (2) Psychosocial rehabilitation; (3) Crisis intervention; (4) Residential rehabilitation; and (5) Program for Assertive Community Training (PACT)	Service
RTSS	Rehabilitation Treatment and Supportive Services	Service
SA	Substance Abuse. The excessive use of a substance such as alcohol and/or other drugs.	Term
SA	Sexual Abuse The imposition of sexually inappropriate acts, or acts with sexual overtones by one or more persons who derive authority through ongoing emotional bonding with that child	Term
SAA	Sexual Addicts Anonymous. A worldwide program supporting sexual addicts in recovery from their disease.	Support
SACWIS	Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information Systems A comprehensive automated case management tool that supports social workers' foster care and adoptions assistance case management practice. By law, a SACWIS is required to support the reporting of data to the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis Reporting System (AFCARS) and the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS). Furthermore, SACWIS are expected to have bi-directional interfaces with a State's Title IV-A (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) and Title IV-D (Child Support) systems.	System
SAM	Service Area Manager. This individual is charged with the day-to-day success of DHS services	DHS Term

NAME	DEFINITION	TYPE
	within one of eight areas within the state. By and large, this is the accountable individual to the citizens of the area for DHS activities.	
SAP	Sexual Abuse Prevention Collaborative efforts of adult and community to complement existing programs that focus on victim identification and services, thus building a comprehensive approach.	Intervention
SART	Sexual Abuse Response Team A team of persons consisting of a special prosecutor, law enforcement investigator or team of investigators and a victim advocate to assist in the investigation, prosecution, and advocacy of sexual assault cases.	Coalition
SAT	Substance Abuse Treatment Treatment usually involves individual and group psychotherapy, education about alcohol and drugs, exercise, proper nutrition and participation in a recovery program such as Alcoholics Anonymous. Successful recovery is not just staying off the substances but to learn to enjoy life without drugs or alcohol.	Intervention
SDA	Service Delivery Area The defined geographic area for delivery of project services.	DHS Term
SDM	Shared Decision-Making. One of four strategies of the CPPC designed to bring community partners together to identify local interventions to protect and/or enhance circumstances of families and children within the community.	CPPC Term
SE	Service Area. A total of 8 groups of Iowa counties for administrative purposes.	DHS Term
SED	Severe Emotional Disability A child with a clinically significant disorder of thought, mood, perception, orientation, memory or behavior and that presents substantial limitations that have persisted for at least one year or are judged by a mental health professional to be at high risk of continuing for one year without professional intervention.	Term
Service Case	A case is considered open by the Department if at least one child in a household is receiving child welfare services.	DHS Term
Service Plan	A plan that outlines the services that the parent and child should receive to work towards their permanency goal. The service plan is supposed to work on the issues that lead the child into foster care.	DHS Term
SIDS	Sudden Infant Death Syndrome A fatal syndrome that affects sleeping infants under a year old, characterized by a sudden cessation of breathing and thought to be caused by a defect in the central nervous system. Also called crib death.	Medical Term
SIG	State Incentive Grant SIG is targeted at reducing alcohol, tobacco, and illicit drug among adolescents, age 12-17 years. Under SIG, States leverage, redirect, and coordinate prevention funding streams coming into the state, thus augmenting the traditional Block Grant funding stream.	Term

NAME	DEFINITION	TYPE
	Eighty-five percent of each grant is used to implement community-oriented, evidence-based prevention practices to fill gaps in critical prevention services.	
SPR	Service Plan Review A meeting that is held to review and update the service plan. Parents should be told about an SPR two weeks before it is held, so they can come.	DHS Term
STAR	Statewide Tracking Assessment Reports STAR is responsible for tracking the intake, assessment and findings for child abuse investigations. The STAR system collects information regarding abuse reports, report decisions, reporter, alleged perpetrator, caseworker, dates of parental notification, appeal data, final disposition of assessment, and completion time frames for individuals receiving child protective services.	System
SW	Social Worker Performs organized work intended to advance the social conditions of a community, and especially of the disadvantaged, by providing psychological counseling, guidance, and assistance, especially in the form of social services.	Term
SWII	Social Worker 2 Provides basic social work services and placement services for dependent, neglected and delinquent children.	DHS Term
SWIII	Social Worker 3 Provides intensive casework services for clients with difficult, complex and complicated problems. Makes professional decisions and recommendations that can have a serious impact on the life of the person served. Evaluates reports of child or dependent adult abuse; assesses strengths/needs of clients and recommends service interventions.	DHS Term
TANF	Temporary Assistance for Needy Families A monthly cash assistance program for poor families with children under 18.	DHS Service
Therapist	A person specializing in therapy; especially : one trained in methods of treatment and rehabilitation other than the use of drugs or surgery	Term
Title 19	Title 19 or Medicaid A program that pays for covered medical and health care costs of people who qualify. The Medicaid program is funded by federal and state governments and is managed by the Iowa Department of Human Services.	Program
TPR	Termination of Parental Rights The decision made by a judge to cut off a parent's rights as parent, which makes a child legally able to be adopted.	DHS Term
U of I	University of Iowa A major national research composed of 11 colleges, the largest of which is the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, enrolling most of Iowa's undergraduates. The Henry B. Tippie College of Business, the Roy J. and Lucille A. Carver College of Medicine, and the Colleges of Education, Engineering, Law, Nursing, Pharmacy, enroll undergraduates, and with the	Term

NAME	DEFINITION	TYPE
	Colleges of Dentistry and Public Health provide graduate education in conjunction with the Graduate College.	
Un-Confirmed Report	When the Department determines there was not a preponderance of credible evidence (greater than 50%) to indicate that child abuse occurred. (Also known as not founded)	DHS Term
WAP	Weatherization Assistance Program A federal grant program established to help reduce the heating and cooling costs for low-income persons, particularly the elderly, disabled, and children, by improving the energy efficiency of their homes.	Program
WIC	Women, Infants and Children A federally funded program that provides healthy supplemental foods and nutrition counseling for pregnant women, new mothers, infants, and children under age 5	Program
YFI	Young Families Initiative A statewide child abuse prevention program that promotes early intervention and prevention activities. Funded through the Community Based Family Resource and Support grant and an anonymous donor.	Program