

SAMS Philosophical Principles

- Child safety is paramount
- Permanency is an integral part of safety
- Respect for the rights of children and caregivers
- Respect for families
- Child-centered and family-focused practice
- Least intrusive intervention

West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources Bureau for Children and Families



SAMS Hotline
800-352-6513

<http://www.wvdhhr.org/>

Joe Manchin, III
Governor



Patsy A. Hardy
Cabinet Secretary



SAMS Safety Assessment and Management System

Bureau for Children
and Families

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Safety Assessment and Management System

A new child protective service model has been designed by the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources Bureau for Children and Families along with the Federal National Resource Center for Child Protective Services. The NRCCPS began working with the CPS Steering committee at BCF in August of 2007 and continues to provide guidance and direction through the implementation process.



NRCCPS is operated by ACTION for Child Protection Inc.

The redesign of West Virginia's child welfare model is tied to a federal demonstration project involving Alabama, South Dakota and Wisconsin. West Virginia is a "shadow district" of the primary state, Alabama. West Virginia will have access to everything developed with Alabama and the other states. The outcomes of the project are being measured by the Atlantic Coast Child Welfare Implementation Center, ACCWIC.

The new child welfare model for West Virginia is an integrated safety system: Safety Assessment and Management System, or **SAMS** for short, that is projected to be implemented statewide beginning in 2009.

SAMS is a comprehensive assessment process from intake to closure.

It is a more precise way to determine safety and respond to unsafe children. It will provide a clearer way to work with families.

This major initiative will move the state from being concerned with risk assessment exclusively, to a more exact understanding of family conditions that may have an effect on the safety of children.

