

INFORMATION ABOUT THE NORWEGIAN BARNEVERNSTJENESTE

St. Paul Catholic Parish has agreed to help find families who are associated with our schools and parish and who are interested in becoming foster parents for children and youth in need.

Also, within our parish, there are families who are in need of the services that Child Welfare Services supplies.

Child Welfare Services initiates contact with a child's family upon receiving calls and notes of concern from schools, neighbors, medical practitioners, and others who are uneasy about the health, well-being, and development of a child.

Employees in the public sector have a duty to contact Child Welfare Services when they are aware of a child who may potentially be neglected or abused, or suffers from other home-related problems.

Child Welfare Services will initially attempt to help the child and family in the home by providing counselling, or similar measures, to the parents/guardians. Most children receive help from Child Welfare Services in the home. It is only when the child is endangered that relocation of the child will be considered.

Common causes for concern that Child Welfare Services acts upon:

- **SERIOUS NEGLECT.** Children who are in unsafe environments and do not receive normal care, clothing, nourishment, and support to function in school and within peer groups.
- **ABUSE.** Children who are physically abused or are subjected to violence in the home.
- **SEXUAL ABUSE** from parents/guardians or others.
- **DRUG and ALCOHOL ABUSE** on the part of parents/guardians or the child.
- **SERIOUS MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES** related to the parents/guardian or the child.

When a child needs foster-care, Child Welfare Services will first determine if there is anyone in the child's family or local environment who can provide foster-care for the child. When this is not possible, Children's Foster Care Services will find other suitable foster-care for the child.

For more information about parent-child relationships, Child Welfare Services, and Children's Foster Care Services, please take a look at the following sources:

<https://www.bufdir.no>
www.lovdاتا.no

- [The Children Act](#) (*Barnelova*)
- [The Child Welfare Act](#) (*Barnevernloven*)

