

CHAPTER 393

COUNTY WELFARE BOARD

393.07 Powers and duties.

393.07 POWERS AND DUTIES.

Subdivision 1. **Public child welfare program.** a. To assist in carrying out the child protection, delinquency prevention and family assistance responsibilities of the state, the county welfare board shall administer a program of social services and financial assistance to be known as the public child welfare program. The public child welfare program shall be supervised by the commissioner of public welfare and administered by the county welfare board in accordance with law and with rules of the commissioner.

b. The purpose of the public child welfare program is to assure protection for and financial assistance to children who are confronted with social, physical, or emotional problems requiring protection and assistance. These problems include, but are not limited to the following:

- (1) Mental, emotional, or physical handicap;
- (2) Birth of a child to a mother who was not married to the child's father when the child was conceived nor when the child was born, including but not limited to costs of prenatal care, confinement and other care necessary for the protection of a child born to a mother who was not married to the child's father at the time of the child's conception nor at the birth;
- (3) Dependency, neglect;
- (4) Delinquency;
- (5) Abuse or rejection of a child by its parents;
- (6) Absence of a parent or guardian able and willing to provide needed care and supervision;
- (7) Need of parents for assistance with child rearing problems, or in placing the child in foster care.

c. A county welfare board shall make the services of its public child welfare program available as required by law, by the commissioner, or by the courts and shall cooperate with other agencies, public or private, dealing with the problems of children and their parents as provided in this subdivision.

The public child welfare program shall be available in divorce cases for investigations of children and home conditions and for supervision of children when directed by the court hearing the divorce.

d. A county welfare board may rent, lease, or purchase property, or in any other way approved by the commissioner, contract with individuals or agencies to provide needed facilities for foster care of children. It may purchase services or child care from duly authorized individuals, agencies or institutions when in its judgment the needs of a child or his family can best be met in this way.

[For text of subs 2 to 11, see M.S.1982]

History: 1983 c 7 s 9; 1983 c 243 s 5 subd 9