

**Children will be children
and adults are only really adults when
they understand and love them,
and provide for them.
A nation can only survive and prosper
if it does everything possible to invest
in
its own children”.**

*President France Albert Rene
Seychelles
1989*



**THE MINISTRY OF FAMILY AFFAIRS
SOCIAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT
SOCIAL SERVICES DIVISION**

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Tel: (248) 428 15 00 Fax: (248) 422 56 56

All about the Social Services Division

THE SOCIAL SERVICES DIVISION

The Social Services Division is a Division within the Social Affairs Department which works with children and their families to ensure the promotion of a high standard of social functioning so that the society is one with strong families with good quality of life.

The Division has 2 Sections which includes the *Community Social Work Section* and the *Legal Services and Child Protection Section*.

1. Community Social Work

Social Workers in this Section are based at district level, at the District Administration offices. They work towards providing support to children and their families faced with social problems such as **neglect**, **substance abuse** and **mental illness**.



The Section also deals with **adoption** and **foster care** cases where arrangements for placements/adoption of children are made after foster/adoptive parents have been identified and investigation carried out.

The Section further investigates and writes reports for the Courts and the Family Tribunal in cases of custody, access, maintenance, guardianship, adoption, minor's & interdicted adult's property



2. Legal Services and Child Protection

Social Workers in this Section are based at the head office in the Oceangate House building. The role of the Section is to ensure that a child is protected against all forms of abuse, ill treatment and that parents/ caregivers assume their roles and discharge their responsibilities towards the welfare of their children.

One of the prime responsibilities of the Section is to investigate into allegation of **child abuse** and where necessary joint investigation is carried out with the Police. It is also responsible to secure **alternative placement** where required, to ensure the safety and well-being of any child found to be in need of care.

Community Social Workers also work with children involved in **anti-social behaviour, teenage pregnancy** and attend to **elderly issues** in relation to their welfare.

To report cases or concerns in regard to children, someone can call the Children's Helpline.

CHILDREN'S HELPLINE
TEL: 432 26 26
24 HOUR SERVICE

