



Family Visitation Center (FVC) Linn County, Iowa

1240 26th Ave Ct. SW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52404

The Family Visitation Center of Linn County opened its doors in 2012 as the **only** family visitation center in Iowa offering **free** supervised parent/child contact and monitored exchanges of custody to Linn county residents.

Services

Supervised Visitation is contact (approximately an hour long) between a parent and child which is overseen by a neutral third party.

Monitored Exchange is the supervised transfer of a child from one parent to the other parent using a safe location and a third party to supervise.

Fees

There is no cost associated with FVC services.

Safety is our highest priority.

FVC utilizes a combination of technology and non-technology based measures of security such as: surveillance cameras, access controlled doors, separate entrances, individualized safety plans, staff well trained in domestic violence, and a working relationship with local law enforcement.

The Family Visitation Center of Linn County (FVC) is a community resource that recognizes the importance of providing services to families affected by domestic violence. Young children who witness domestic violence (or who are involved in high-conflict child custody disputes) are more likely to have social-emotional problems as adolescents and adults. (Source: CDC).



Goals

- Keeping children safe from witnessing further violence between adults in their family
- Supporting the abused parent's decision to end the relationship with the abusive parent
- Eliminating face-to-face contact between the abused parent and the abusive parent
- Supporting the abused parent in feeling they can safely comply with the level of supervised visitation granted to the visiting parent by the court
- Eliminate the risk that children will be physically abused or abducted during visitation or exchange.
- Substantially reduce the risk of emotional harm during visitation or child exchange.

Referral Process

- Court order, self-referral, or referral by a community agency or organization (attorney, law enforcement, social services, domestic violence agency or batterer education program.)
- Children must be in the custody of one or both parents. FVC cannot provide services to children in foster care or protective custody of courts or social service agencies.
- Each parent is responsible to contact FVC to schedule a separate orientation session.
- FVC takes into consideration individual circumstances, personal safety needs and concerns and level of risk to victim and the children, before admission to program can be made.

www.linncounty.org

phone 319.892.5776 • fax 319.892.5779 • fvc@linncounty.org



This project was supported by Grant No. 2007-CW-AX-0008 awarded by the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, conclusions and recommendations expressed in this publication are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women.