

## Snyder Family Scenario

Read the following scenario to yourself. Once you have finished, you will participate in a role-play in which you will consider how to identify the “concerns under the concerns.” During the role-play, one participant in the group will act as the facilitator, one as an observer and the rest in the group as family members. This will require that those acting as the family members add to the scenario while staying within its confines.

The facilitator is to ask the “family members” to share concerns, with the purpose of helping the “family members” drill down to the true “concerns under the concerns.” You will have 5 minutes to conduct the role-play and 2 minutes to provide feedback. After time is up, you will switch roles. You will change roles and repeat this activity until everyone has a chance to facilitate.

### Family Composition:

Neil	Biological Father	51 years of age
Patricia	Biological Mother	42 years of age
Jacob	Child	7 years of age
Cody	Child	14 years of age
Crystal	Child	16 years of age

You are facilitating a Family Group Decision Making meeting for the family of Neil and Patricia. Neil has a history of drug and alcohol abuse. He also has anger management issues, particularly while drinking. He left the family home 7 months ago at the request of the children’s mother. Neil has been sober for 6 months now and has been attending Alcoholics Anonymous meetings with a long-time military friend, who still drinks.

Patricia has a history with abusive men and was emotionally abused by her own father. The situation in her home growing up was not very pleasant, yet neither the authorities nor Children and Youth Services were ever involved in her life before she had her own kids.

Six years ago, Children and Youth Services became involved with Patricia’s family after she left Jacob sleeping in her car while she was shopping at the grocery store. At the time, Jacob was 13 months old. The case was closed after 8 months of involvement. Jacob, who is now 7 years old, was diagnosed with Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder for which he has been taking medication for 6 months. His behavior had been improving until the recent marital issues between his parents.

The family was recently referred to the truancy unit at Children and Youth Services because Cody has not been attending school and was recently suspended for physically assaulting a teacher at school. Cody has been referred to Juvenile Probation.

Crystal is also showing some problems academically, and her mother reports that she “has an attitude”. Crystal is very upset with her mother for kicking her father out. Crystal has not been following curfew and has been hanging out with many older guys from her school. Jacob has reported to the caseworker that Crystal has been drinking at their father’s house and sleeping over at her boyfriend’s.