

## **Determine the Phase Activity**

Instructions:

1. Read the case assigned to your group.
2. Determine which phase of the Interactional Helping Skills Model is being described – both for the worker and for the family/case, which may be different.

### **Example #1**

The Moreno family has been receiving post-adoption services since finalizing the adoption of a teen youth. During this time, there has been no indication of emotional distress. Mr. and Mrs. Moreno express continuing delight about the progress the youth is making in school and her physical development. Service providers all report that the youth has made significant progress to the point that they are prepared to wrap up service provision. The family agrees with this assessment and notes that they are ready to move forward without agency help.

### **Example #2**

Jim was recently hired as a new caseworker in the General Protective Services (GPS) unit. He has been assigned to work with the Thompson family, who has been receiving GPS services for lack of supervision of their pre-school children for the past two (2) years. Another referral was received over the weekend alleging that there is no food in the house. Jim needs to go out to the house to verify the food supply and to meet the family for the first time.

### **Example #3**

The Ying family has met with you, the assigned caseworker, on one (1) other occasion. You went to their home to assess whether or not General Protective Services (GPS) would be needed to assist them in meeting the special needs of their newborn, who was diagnosed with Down's Syndrome. The hospital had referred the family after Mr. Ying expressed regret that the child was "defective" and a girl. He had been hoping that his first-born would be a son. The Ying's have been living in your community for only a few months, having come to the county through a Hmong resettlement program.

Mr. Ying assured you that his family did not need services and that he would take care of any problems. He agreed to call the local Office of Developmental Programs to enroll the baby in Infant Stimulation Services, but a check with that office, four (4) weeks after the visit, indicated that no call had yet been received. A check with the local medical clinic indicated that the Ying's also missed the first well-baby check-up last week.

## **Determine the Phase Activity (Cont'd)**

### **Example #4**

As a new caseworker in the Placement unit, you have been assigned to work with the Alexander family. Your supervisor tells you that the Alexander family has two (2) children in kinship care, living with their maternal aunt. They have been in care for the past eleven (11) months.

The parents continue to struggle with maintaining their sobriety and meeting the objectives on their Family Service Plan/Child's Permanency Plan. Mr. Alexander recently lost his job after his third Driving Under the Influence (DUI) arrest caused him to lose his license and he could not find a ride to work. Mrs. Alexander has been attending Alcoholics Anonymous meetings and keeping all of her appointments with her rehabilitation counselor. She has been sober for three (3) months, but recently, her anxiety has increased and she was arrested for disorderly conduct after fighting with the manager of the apartment complex when he threatened to evict them for being behind on their rent.

Mrs. Alexander expresses anger at Mr. Alexander for continuing to drink and for his recent arrest. She has threatened to leave him and to try to create a more stable environment so the children can come home; however, she has not made any steps in this direction. The aunt has stated that she would be willing to provide a stable home for her sister's children, but she is not interested in adopting them. Your supervisor asked you to contact the Senior Adoption Worker to arrange a home visit to discuss permanency planning with the Alexander's.

### **Example #5**

You are an investigative worker in the Child Protective Services (CPS) unit. You received a referral on the Cleaver family. A local schoolteacher reported that Mrs. Cleaver's six (6)-year-old son, Nathan, went to school today with apparent bite marks on his hand. The bite was severe enough that it broke the skin and left a large bruise in the bite area. Nathan complained that he was not able to complete his schoolwork due to the pain associated with the bite. Mrs. Cleaver is a stay-at-home mother. You attempt a home visit at Mrs. Cleaver's residence. You knock on the door, she answers. You introduce yourself as the children and youth services investigator assigned to this case. Although resistant at first, Mrs. Cleaver allows you in the home to conduct an investigation.