

Case Example Discussion Guide

Trainer, below are considerations when processing out the various case examples. Items contained in boxes are discussion points and considerations.

1) Jones Family:

1. What are the tasks that you would perform and the considerations you would make in preparing for the interview?
 - a. Get more information about the support group, such as the contact person, status of openings, where the support group meets, what time it meets, what is the cost and if they would be willing to accept Malika.

This may spark discussion about self-determination of the client and building capacity by assisting the client to obtain the information counter-balanced by the need to determine the feasibility of the plan and monitor progress, as an ongoing worker. Have the large group offer suggestions of solution-focused questions that might determine the most appropriate course of action.

- b. Schedule a time to meet with Malika.
 - c. Consider child care issues. (Transportation is not an issue as it meets at the church down the street.)
 - d. Consider whether or not Malika has a significant connection with the church and its people.
 - e. Consult with supervisor.
2. Offer specific questions (that incorporate the Stages of Change, the Six Assessment Domains, and/or strengths-based, solution-focused concepts) that you would ask the family when conducting the actual interview.

With regard to the information participants still would want to know, as well as the questions they would offer to determine that information, these points will vary too greatly for the trainer resource to address this issue. Whatever the questions are that participants create make sure that they incorporate prior learning (e.g., are strengths-based, solution-focused, consider the stages of change, and consider the six domains).

A possible question that participants could consider, which focuses on the Stages of Change, may include: "Malika, if you're not satisfied with the way things have been and wanted to change one thing about your parenting of your child, what might that be?" This question reflects the contemplation stage, the stage in which Malika likely resides.

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2) Simpka Family:

1. What are the tasks that you would perform and the considerations you would make in preparing for the interview?
 - a. Since this is past the intake stage and the protocol does not apply, decide whether to meet with the child or parent first, or to meet with them together.
 - b. Determine the location of the meeting (a quiet private place).

Since the child is 15 and the case involves a mental health referral, generally the child has the right to accept/refuse services and to sign consents to accept or refuse services and/or to accept or refuse medications. The worker may need to confirm that the child's "minor brain damage" does not interfere with his right to make these decisions.

- c. Consider whether alternate transportation would be needed if the child stays to talk to you.
- d. Determine if the parents can stay to talk also or if another time to meet will be necessary.
- e. Consult with your supervisor.

Ensure that you process out who participants would meet with first (child, parents or supervisor) and why.

2. Offer specific questions (that incorporate the Stages of Change, the Six Assessment Domains, and/or strengths-based, solution-focused concepts) that you would ask the family when conducting the actual interview.

Similarly to the last case example, with regard to the information participants still would want to know, as well as the questions they would offer to determine that information, these points will vary too greatly for the trainer resource to address this issue. Whatever the questions are that participants create make sure that they incorporate prior learning (e.g., are strengths-based, solution-focused, consider the stages of change, and consider the six domains).

A possible question that participants could consider, which focuses on the Six Domains, may include: "Mark, how do you see yourself getting along with other people your age?" This question seeks to elicit information regarding Mark's perception of his general behavior and functioning. Participants would want to ask follow-up questions concerning Mark's view of his emotions, temperament, and physical capacity. It addresses how a child is from day to day rather than focusing on points in time.

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3) Olum Family:

1. What are the tasks that you would perform and the considerations you would make in preparing for the interview?
 - a. Get the ICWA Desk Aid and Screening Tool out.

Distribute table copies of these, noting that participants will talk further about these in later modules. Note that these resources can be found on the Training Program website (www.pacwcbt.pitt.edu). On the main page of the Training Program website, in the custom search field, enter ICWA Desk Aid, click Search. Choose the first “hit,” which should take participants to the Diversity Task Force webpage. On this page, participants will find the ICWA Desk Aid and Screening Tool.

- b. Look up resources on the NICWA website and find the nearest office.

The NICWA (National Indian Child Welfare Association) website is: www.nicwa.org.

- c. Determine who offers afterschool programming.
 - d. Decide how soon you need to meet, as well as the location and who will be present (*i.e.*, if the meetings with the child and father will occur on the same day and if they will occur in the same place).

Ask participants to consider what other preparations they would need to make if they met with the child at the school.

- e. Consult with supervisor.
 2. Offer specific questions (that incorporate the Stages of Change, the Six Assessment Domains, and/or strengths-based, solution-focused concepts) that you would ask the family when conducting the actual interview.

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A possible question that participants could consider, which focuses on the Six Domains, may include: “Mr. Olum, can you tell me more about your daily routine with Billy?” This question explores the general nature and approach to parenting which forms the basis for understanding caregiver-child interaction. The question, while seemingly innocuous will assist in building rapport while allowing the father to tell his story about his parenting capabilities.

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In addition to other concepts identified on the Six Assessment Domains handout, this question will help participants elicit information concerning caregiver knowledge and skill in parenting and child development, caregiver expectations and empathy for a child and decision making in parenting practices. This information will likely lead to discovering whether the injuries were accidental or non-accidental.

4) Juarez Family:

1. What are the tasks that you would perform and the considerations you would make in preparing for the interview?
 - a. Determine if there is a previous agency record.

Depending on the agency, the worker may need to obtain a voluntary placement agreement from the mother, petition for dependency (with children in kinship care) or petition for protective supervision (with children remaining with grandmother or returning to mother). The need for tuning in to self and others may be important to highlight here.

- b. Gather consents for release of information.
- c. Get a copy of the police report.
- d. Call the police/prison to find out where the mother is and how long she is likely to be imprisoned if she is still in jail.
- e. Figure out the children's whereabouts (grandmother's, school, mother's or elsewhere).
- f. Think about what to do if grandmother is not willing to keep the children.

Ask participants in the large group to think of solution-focused ways to ask the grandmother about her commitment to keeping the children.

- g. Talk with supervisor about next steps.
2. Offer specific questions (that incorporate the Stages of Change, the Six Assessment Domains, and/or strengths-based, solution-focused concepts) that you would ask the family when conducting the actual interview.

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A possible question that participants could consider, which focuses on the Six Domains,

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may include: “Ms. Juarez, can you tell me more about what happened last night?” This question is concerned with the nature of what accompanies or surrounds the maltreatment. It addresses what is going on at the time that the maltreatment occurs or has occurred. One of the major issues with this scenario is that we do not know what the maltreatment may entail. For instance, did sexual abuse occur, were the children neglected (i.e., lack of supervision) due to mom’s drinking, and so on?

Follow-up questions could further explore whether or not maltreatment occurred. The line of questioning, related to Nature of Maltreatment: Surrounding Circumstances, qualifies the maltreatment by placing it in a context or situation that 1) precedes or leads up to the maltreatment or 2) exists while the maltreatment is occurring. Along these lines, it is important to discover whether mom’s drinking led to the child being exposed to possible sexual abuse and/or neglect.

Juarez Family: New Information

1. What are the changes to preparation that you would make?
 - a. It would be important to use the skill of Tuning in to Self to discover whether the new information in the report changes our perspective of the mother and how we would engage her.
 - b. It would also be important to use the skill of Tuning in to Others and consider any barriers that could arise given that we now know the mother has faced sexual abuse in the past – for example, if you are a male worker assigned to working with Juanita, how might this affect the helping relationship.
 - c. It will be important to consider how the mother’s history of being abused affects her perception and/or treatment of her child. It is also important to consider how the mother’s history of being abused affects her perception of the maternal grandmother as caregiver of the mother’s child.
 - d. The questions considered ahead of time, and the depth of the information we seek regarding specific concepts, may change based on the new information. For example, whereas we would certainly seek to discover any potential child sexual abuse given the original scenario, now knowing that Juanita herself was sexually abused and, due to numerous strange men coming in the home, we would need to ask more probing questions that delve further into discovering whether child sexual abuse has occurred or may occur.)
2. What changes to tasks would you make?
 - a. The interview with the mother would have to take into consideration her previous history with alcohol use.
 - b. One of the consents that we should engage the mother to sign would include drug and alcohol treatment.
 - c. We would need to discover whether the mother is currently involved in some sort of alcohol-related support group. In addition, it would be helpful to discover whether she has a support group sponsor.
 - d. In discussing resources with the mother during the interview, we would want to broach the topic of support groups for adult survivors of abuse.