

WORKSHOP DIRECTORY PAGE

TITLE: **Charting the Course towards Permanency for Children in Pennsylvania**
Module 8: Assessing Safety in Out-of-Home Care

COMP. #: 110

NO. HRS: 12

DATE: March 2016

QUALITY SERVICES REVIEW INDICATORS:

- Practice Review 1a: Engagement Efforts
- Practice Review 4: Assessment and Understanding

COMPETENCIES:

- 102-2:** The child welfare professional understands the importance of effective case assessment and planning as the foundation of casework intervention.
- 102-4:** The child welfare professional can assess families' cognitive, behavioral and emotional strengths and weaknesses and can use this information to formulate case goals and plans.
- 102-15:** The child welfare professional is able to write concise, summarized case assessment, case plan and other supporting documentation into the family case record in a timely manner.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES: Participants will be able to:

- Identify and provide rationale for standards of care associated with kin (formal and informal) and foster care and evaluate the effect of our beliefs and perceptions on safety in out-of-home care.
- Learn the Pennsylvania specific critical thinking approach designed to assess, confirm, and maintain child safety in out-of-home care.
- Recognize the nature and importance of quality visitation with children in out-of-home care as a basis for assessing their safety as well as for attending to other critical needs.
- Connect information collection skills and methods related to critical attributes of safety in out-of-home care.
- Learn to complete an assessment and analysis of attributes of a safe out-of-home care setting.
- Identify the critical thinking required to reach conclusions and make decisions based on an assessment of safety in out-of-home care.

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CALENDAR SUMMARY:

This 2-day workshop focuses on assessing safety of children who are placed out of home. This workshop builds on concepts learned in *Module 4: An Introduction to the Safety Assessment and Management Process*, in particular the understanding of Protective Capacities and Safety Threats, as well as the Six Assessment Domains from *Module 3: Using Interactional Helping Skills to Achieve Lasting Change*. Placing a child in an out-of-home care living arrangement does not automatically mean that the child is safe. This workshop will provide a specific approach for child welfare professionals to assess, judge, and confirm that a child will be safe when placed. This assessment process begins once the decision has been made and confirmed by the court that the child should be placed and continues until the child is reunified or they have achieved another permanency goal. The workshop will also address key components of conducting a quality visit with children in an out-of-home care setting and gathering information to inform decision making. This workshop is eligible for 12 continuing education credit hours (CE's).

TARGET AUDIENCE:

This training is intended for newly-employed child welfare professionals seeking certification as direct service workers as well as private provider professionals and other child welfare professionals.

EXPECTATIONS OF THE TRAINER:

The trainer will be knowledgeable about the entire casework process for child welfare cases but be especially skilled in the area of assessing and planning for safety throughout the entire casework process through understanding the general family structure, dynamics, and level of functioning. They must be well versed in the In-Home and Out-of-Home Pennsylvania Safety Assessment and Management Process. They must also have a basic knowledge of the child welfare laws and regulations (both federal and state) and the *Pennsylvania Standards for Child Welfare Practice* (January 2000).

In addition, trainers must have an in-depth knowledge of the *Child Placements with Emergency Caregivers*, *Kinship Care Policy*, and *Frequency and Tracking of Caseworker Visits to Children in Federally Defined Foster Care*, *Implementation of Act 160 of 2004 Amending the Child Protective Services Law* bulletins and the *Chapter 3700 Foster Family Care Agency Regulations*. They will be familiar with the Interactional Helping Skills (especially Communicating Information, Reaching for Feedback, and Questioning). They must have effective presentation and practice facilitation skills and be committed to and knowledgeable about strength-based child welfare practice, as well as social work values and ethics.

RELEVANT LAWS, REGULATIONS, BULLETINS, etc.

- Act 25 of 2003
- Act 160 of 2004

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- Act 119 of 2010, titled Children in Foster Care Act
- Adoption and Safe Families Act
- Chapter 3700 Foster Family Care Agency Regulations
- Children Youth and Families Bulletin # 00-03-03 Kinship Care Policy
- Children Youth and Families Bulletin # 3140-04-05/3490-04-01 Child Placements with Emergency Caregivers
- Children Youth and Families Bulletin # 3490-08-05 Frequency and Tracking of Caseworker Visits to Children in Federally Defined Foster Care
- Child Protective Services Law
- P.L. 113-183: Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act
- Act 75 of 2015: Activities and Experiences for Children in Out-of-Home Placements Act
- Act 94 of 2015 of 2015: Sex Trafficking and Missing and Abducted Children

MATERIALS NEEDED FOR WORKSHOP:

- ✓ 2 Flip chart pads
- ✓ 2 Flip chart stands
- ✓ CTC name tents
- ✓ Idea catchers
- ✓ Colored markers
- ✓ Masking tape
- ✓ Blank paper (2 sheets per participant)
- ✓ Prepared flip charts
- ✓ Plastic sleeves
- ✓ Metal rings (1 per participant)
- ✓ 12 table copies of **Reference Manual for Charting the Course towards Permanency for Children in Pennsylvania** (in training room)
- ✓ **Smith Family Folder** (Participants are to bring this with them to training. 1-2 extra copies will be in the training room.)
- ✓ 6 table copies of the **Child and Adolescent Development Resource Book** (in training room)
- ✓ **Trainer Resource Book**
- ✓ Television and DVD/Video player
- ✓ **DVD: Interview with Allison Family Foster Parents Regarding Raphael**
- ✓ Laptop
- ✓ LCD projector and screen
- ✓ Evaluations
- ✓ Module 9 Pre-test (one for each participant)
- ✓ Pre-test envelope
- ✓ Appendices
- ✓ **PowerPoint Presentation**
- ✓ **Handouts**
- ✓ **Poster**
- ✓ **Visitation Field Guide (1 per participant)**

LIST OF HANDOUTS:

Note:

The Pennsylvania Child Welfare Resource Center

Module 8: Assessing Safety in Out-of-Home Care
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If handouts are requested in packet form, **Handout #17 (Information Collection: Safety in Out-of-Home Care Sample Interview Questions)** and **Handout #23 (Out-of-Home Care Safety Assessment Worksheet Sample)** should be removed from the packet and sent separately.

***** This handout should be printed on card stock, inserted into plastic sleeves and bound with a 1” metal ring.**

~ Please make 60 copies (two sets) of this handout.

- ✓ **Handout #1:** Charting the Course Towards Permanency: Module 8: Assessing Safety in Out-of-Home Care (29 pages)
- ✓ **Handout #2:** Agenda & Overall Learning Objectives (1 page)
- ✓ **Handout #3:** Action Plan (2 pages)
- ✓ **Handout #4:** Glossary of Terms (4 pages)
- ✓ **Handout #5:** The Process for Assessing Safety in Out-of-Home Care (5 pages)
- ✓ **Handout #6:** Impact of Trauma and Maltreatment on Child and Adolescent Development (4 pages)
- ✓ **Handout #7:** Talking with Children about Placement (4 pages)
- ✓ **Handout #8:** Preparing Children-Youth for Placement (5 pages)
- ✓ **Handout #9:** Rights of Children in Foster Care (2 pages)
- ✓ **Handout #10:** Present Danger: Definitions and Examples (14 pages)
- ✓ **Handout #11:** The Hawes Family & Darlene’s Mother Case Scenario (2 pages)
- ✓ **Handout #12:** Present Danger Assessment: Out-of-Home Care Settings Worksheet (1 page)
- ✓ **Handout #13:** Out-of-Home Care Safety Assessment: Safety Indicators & Characteristics (6 pages) ***
- ✓ **Handout #14:** Applying What You Know: Thinking About Safety (1 page)
- ✓ **Handout #15:** Information Collection: Key Points (2 pages)
- ✓ **Handout #16:** Quality Visitation (2 pages)
- ✓ **Handout #17:** Information Collection: Safety in Out-of-Home Care Sample Interview Questions (5 pages)
- ✓ **Handout #18:** Scenario for Participants: Round Robin Exercise Information Collection (1 page)
- ✓ **Handout #19: Out-of-Home Care Safety Assessment Worksheet (2 pages)~**
- ✓ **Handout #20:** Out-of-Home Care Safety Assessment Worksheet Instructions (3 pages)
- ✓ **Handout #21:** Safety Analysis: A Closer Look at the Analysis Questions (2 pages)
- ✓ **Handout #22:** A Brief on the Allison Foster Family from the Foster Care Application (3 pages)
- ✓ **Handout #23:** Out-of-Home Care Safety Assessment Worksheet Sample (4 pages)

LIST OF POSTERS:

- ✓ **Poster #1:** Out-of-Home Care Safety Assessment Worksheet (2 pages)

LIST OF DVDS / VIDEOS:

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- ✓ **DVD/Video #1:** Interview with Allison Family Foster Parents Regarding Raphael

LIST OF POWERPOINT SLIDES:

- 1: Module 8: Assessing Safety in Out-of-Home Care (86 Slides)

LIST OF TRAINER RESOURCES

- *The Safety Assessment and Management Process Reference Manual* (Can be found in contracted training rooms.)

LIST OF APPENDICES

- ✓ **Appendix #1:** CTC: Mod 9 Pre-test Instructions

CE CREDITS ASSIGNED:

Continuing education credits: 12 hours