

Treatment Milestones Necessary for Reunification

- ✓ All family members must have acknowledged the abuse and must understand the importance of holding the juvenile accountable.

- ✓ Adult family members must fully understand what is necessary to protect past and potentially future victims. A review and understanding of the context of the situation in which the juvenile who sexually offended and/or acted out in the past is helpful to identify all of the interventions and changes which need to be made to assure continued safety, to include level and type of supervision, access to potential victims, etc.

- ✓ The victim must have a support system and must be able to talk openly about the abuse with the therapist and parent or caretaker.

- ✓ The juvenile must have identified his/her offending thoughts, feelings and behaviors, discussed high risk situations, grooming behavior, and safety plans with all family members or caretakers.

- ✓ The juvenile must understand the damage resulting from his/her offenses.

- ✓ The parents or caretakers must not minimize or trivialize the offensive behavior and must be committed to the supervision necessary when the juvenile re-enters the home.

- ✓ Parents and caretakers must understand how their own history, sexual beliefs, and experiences impact their child's safety and recovery.

- ✓ The family and/or caretakers must have established physical and personal boundaries for family members.

- ✓ Concurrent diagnostic problems such as substance abuse or psychiatric disorders must have been treated.

- ✓ The family must utilize therapy or other community resources freely and must be expanding their network of extra-familial support.

- ✓ The family and/or caretakers must have openly developed a safety plan which includes direct instruction for children to report future offending and names of extra-familial adults to whom reports can be made. The family should be able to identify possible early indicators of abuse and should be invited to return to treatment if needed.

- ✓ All family members must understand that the potential for re-offending exists.