- TITLE: Assessing Safety in Out-of-Home Care Updates
- **COMP. #:** 204
- **NO. HRS:** 3
- DATE: TOC November 2012

QUALITY SERVICES REVIEW INDICATORS:

Practice Review 4: Assessment and Understanding

COMPETENCIES:

- 204-5: The Child Welfare Professional can use casework methods during the investigation to begin to establish a supportive casework relationship, to involve families in a joint assessment of the need for services, and to motivate families to work with the agency toward elimination of maltreatment.
- 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:

Describe changes to the Out-of-Home Care Safety Assessment and Management Process since April 2011.

CALENDAR SUMMARY:

This 3-hour workshop focuses on the updates made to the Out-of-Home Care Safety Assessment and Management Process prior to January 2013. It is intended ONLY for those child welfare professionals who have attended the 2-day workshop "Assessing Safety in Outof-Home Care AND who have implemented the Out-of-Home Care Safety Assessment and Management Process. Counties that have implemented the process have been specifically identified by the Regional Offices of Children, Youth and Families.

Participants will become familiar with new language, interval policies, expectations surrounding Present Danger Assessments, and expectations around communication of safety concerns for children in out-of-home care homes that are not assigned to their caseload.

This workshop is eligible for 3 continuing education credit hours.

TARGET AUDIENCE:

Child welfare professionals who work for counties identified by the Department of Public Welfare Office of Children, Youth and Families as having implemented the Out-of-Home Care Safety Assessment and Management Process prior to January 2013. The child welfare professional must have worked for the county during implementation, participated in the 204: Assessing Safety in Out-of-Home Care training, and implemented the Out-of-Home Care Process.

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 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
- > 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

MATERIALS NEEDED:

<u>Note</u>: In addition to the materials listed below, provide enough copies of the **Safety** Assessment and Management Process Reference Manual that they can keep for each participant.

- ✓ Curriculum
- ✓ Blank Flip Chart Pads
- ✓ Colored Markers
- ✓ Handouts
- ✓ Masking Tape/Poster Putty
- ✓ Name Tents
- ✓ Flip Chart Stands (2)
- ✓ Laptop
- ✓ LCD Screen
- ✓ LCD Projector
- ✓ Power Point Presentation
- ✓ Sign-In Sheet(s)
- ✓ Training Evaluations

LIST OF APPENDICES:

1: N/A

LIST OF DVDS:

1: N/A

LIST OF HANDOUTS:

- 1: PowerPoint Presentation(10 pages)
- 2: Agenda/Action Plan (2 pages)
- 3: Present Danger Definitions and Examples (14 pages)
- 4: Out-of-Home Care Safety Assessment Worksheet (2 pages)
- 5: References (1 page)

LIST OF POWERPOINT SLIDES:

1: 204: Assessing Safety in Out-of-Home Care Updates (30 slides)

LIST OF POSTERS:

1: Assessing Safety in Out-of-Home Care – Flow Chart

LIST OF PRE-WORK:

1: N/A

LIST OF TABLE RESOURCES:

- 1: The Process For Assessing Safety in Out-of-Home Care
- 2: Talking with Children about Placement
- 3: Preparing Children Youth for Placement
- 4: Information Collection: Key Points
- 5: Quality Visitation
- 6: Sample Interview Questions

LIST OF TRAINER RESOURCES:

1: N/A

CREDIT ASSIGNED:

Continuing education credits: 3 hours