

# Advanced Safety Focused Practice

## Safety Is Our Focus

### Safe & Unsafe Child

#### SAFE CHILD



#### UNSAFE CHILD



Focus of behavioral goal/case plan

**Protective Capacities** are personal and parenting behavioral, cognitive and emotional characteristics that specifically and directly associate with being protective of one's child.

### Safety and Risk Assessment Continuum

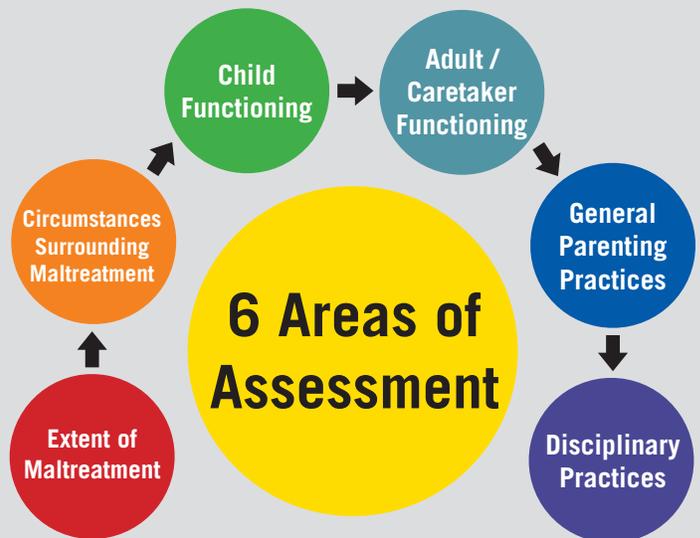
BEGINS AT INTAKE	Present Danger Assessment	Completed within 24 hours of initial contact
	Impending Danger Assessment	Completed within 30 days of initial contact
	Risk Assessment	

**Present Danger** - An immediate, significant and clearly observable family condition, child condition, family circumstance, or individual behavior or action that is in the process of occurring and that obviously endangers a child and requires immediate action to protect against.

**Impending Danger** - A state of danger in which negative family conditions and/or diminished caretaker protective capacities pose a threat that may not be currently active, but can be anticipated to have severe effects on a child at any time in the near future.

**Risk** - The likelihood of future maltreatment.

### 6 Areas of Assessment



# Impending Danger Safety Threshold Criteria



## Conditions that can make a child VULNERABLE

- Age
- Physical or Mental Disability
- Provocative Behavior
- Powerless
- Defenseless
- Non-assertiveness
- Illness

## Criteria for Safety Plans

- Must control or manage impending danger
- Must have an immediate effect
- Must be immediately accessible and available
- Must contain safety intervention and actions only
- No promissory commitments



## Developing Sufficient Safety Plans

### A well-thought out approach:

- includes safety providers who are suitable, committed, and are not perpetrators or alleged perpetrators!
- takes necessary action (level of intrusiveness)
- frequently enough (level of effort)
- to control danger threats and/or substitute for diminished Caretaker Protective Capacities



## Safety Plan Analysis

- Do the parents or caretakers live in the home (established residence)?
- Is the home environment calm/consistent enough for safety actions to be provided and for people participating in safety management to be in the home safely without disruption?
- Are parents/caretakers willing to do the following:
  - Accept an in-home safety plan
  - Allow safety actions to be implemented within the home according to the safety plan
  - Be cooperative with those who are participating in carrying out the safety plan within the home
- Are there sufficient resources within the family or community that are suitable and committed to perform the safety actions necessary to manage the identified Impending Danger threat?

\*If the answer to all of the analysis questions is “yes,” develop an **in-home safety plan**.

\*If the answer to **any** of the analysis questions is “no,” safety management must involve an **“out-of-home”** safety plan.

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