

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

CHILDREN'S DIVISION

P.O. BOX 88

JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI

January 02, 2013

<p>What's Inside: Engaging Fathers and Other Familial Caretakers in the Newborn Crisis Assessment Process</p>
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MEMORANDUM

TO: REGIONAL EXECUTIVE STAFF, CIRCUIT MANAGERS AND CHILDREN'S DIVISION STAFF

FROM: CANDACE A. SHIVELY, DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: ENGAGING FATHERS AND OTHER FAMILIAL CARETAKERS IN THE NEWBORN CRISIS ASSESSMENT PROCESS

DISCUSSION:

The purpose of this memorandum is to inform staff revisions have been made to the Child Welfare Manual and the Newborn Crisis Assessment Tool (NCAT) to emphasize the importance of engaging with both fathers and other familial caretakers during the completion of the newborn crisis assessment process. Staff should involve fathers and/or other familial caretakers with whom the infant is going to reside and/or spend a significant amount of time with through the completion of:

- Home visits and assessments in every home the infant is going to reside and/or spend a significant amount of time
- The safety assessment and planning process
- The NCAT specific to the father and/or familial caretaker

The Description of the Newborn Crisis Assessment, CS-24B should be provided at the time of initial face to face contact with the mother, father and/or other familial caretaker. Staff should take time to answer any questions they may have about the process before proceeding.

NECESSARY ACTIONS:

1. Review this memorandum with all Children's Division staff.
2. Review revised Child Welfare Manual chapters as indicated below.
3. All questions should be cleared through normal supervisory channels and directed to:

PDS CONTACT

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CHILD WELFARE MANUAL REVISIONS Section 2.6.2 Newborn Crisis Assessment	
FORMS AND INSTRUCTIONS Newborn Crisis Assessment Tool (NCAT)	
REFERENCE DOCUMENTS AND RESOURCES N/A	
RELATED STATUTE N/A	
ADMINISTRATIVE RULE N/A	
COUNCIL ON ACCREDITATION (COA) STANDARDS N/A	
CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES REVIEW (CFSR) N/A	
PROTECTIVE FACTORS –N/A Parental Resilience Social Connections Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development Concrete Support in Times of Need Social and Emotional Competence of Children	
FACES REQUIREMENTS N/A	