Practice Alert



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Issued by: Safety and Prevention Unit

Juvenile Assessment Safety Planning

The purpose of this Practice Alert is to remind staff of safety planning when a Juvenile Assessment has been received and safety factors have been identified between the Alleged Child Initiator (ACI) and the victim child(ren).

If any child identified on a Juvenile Assessment is found to be unsafe due to a safety threat posed by an adult household member, staff must follow the policy in **Section 1, Chapter 9, Safety Assessment Outcomes and Safety Planning**.

Children with Problem Sexual Behaviors Safety Plans

A safety plan should be completed for every child who has been found to have a problem sexual behavior. The Children with Problem Sexual Behaviors Safety Plan(s) (CD-215) may be utilized, but is not mandatory as long as a written plan is created to address the problem sexual behavior. A Children with Problem Sexual Behaviors Safety Plan should be completed when one of the following has occurred:

- An act of sexual abuse has been witnessed by an adult;
- There has been a disclosure from the child victim;
- When the child has admitted to problem sexual behavior; or
- When a parent/caregiver is concerned that their child is exhibiting problem sexual behavior.

The Children with Problem Sexual Behaviors Safety Plan should be behaviorally specific and should take the following into account:

- Each living arrangement of the child; and
- All situations in which the child may have access to other children.

The Children with Problem Sexual Behaviors Safety Plan should be mutually agreed upon between staff and the family. All individuals involved in implementing the Children with Problem Sexual Behaviors Safety Plan must be contacted by staff to ensure they are in agreement to the plan.

At a minimum, the Children with Problem Sexual Behaviors Safety Plan should be re-evaluated at each home visit. If the child is involved in any treatment, the plan should be shared with the service provider. Staff should update the Children with Problem Sexual Behaviors Safety Plan as needed. Multiple plans may be necessary if there are multiple living arrangements involved. When the child victim(s) does not reside in the same household as the alleged initiator child, staff should consider if a plan specific to the victim(s) is necessary to help protect them from future harm.

Staffing Juvenile Assessments with the Central Consult Unit (CCU)

As long as there is no safety threat from an adult caregiver in the household and the ACI can be considered safe, Juvenile Assessments may be staffed through CCU as long as all other criteria for an appropriate CCU case is met. CCU will staff juvenile assessments that meet one of the four criteria above for needing a Children with Problem Sexual Behaviors Safety Plan. If a Children with Problem Sexual Behaviors Safety Plan is not completed, CCU will issue a Need More Information (NMI).

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