

Jenkins/Barlow Scenario and Preparation

Background Information

Terry Jenkins is an Ongoing Services caseworker with Carnes County Children & Youth Services (CYS). Terry is 23-years-old and recently graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Social Work six months ago. She recently moved to Carnes County from a large city. She completed her initial training with the agency and has just been assigned a caseload of 20 families. She has shadowed more experienced caseworkers, but her upcoming visit tomorrow with Clara Barlow will be her first solo interview.

Carnes is a mid-sized county with a mix of rural, suburban, and small town features. Clara Barlow lives in a somewhat secluded area between a small town and a rural area. Clara is 38-years-old, has four children, Terrence age 7, Margie age 8, Lori age 13 and Steven age 17, all of whom live at home. Terrence has been diagnosed as ADHD. Steven is on probation with the Carnes County Juvenile Court. Steven and a group of friends got drunk and went into a farmer's field where they chased and "tilted" (pushed over) a number of cows. Two (cows) were seriously injured and had to be put down. Clara's husband was killed in a coal mining accident four years ago. Clara is employed part-time as a housekeeper in a motel near town. She receives pension and health benefits through her deceased husband's employer. Clara has diabetes. The family has two pet Rottweiler dogs.

Clara is involved with CYC because of an incident three months ago. She became angry with her youngest son, Terrence, for taking money from her purse and put his hand on the hot stovetop causing 2nd degree burns. She has no prior history with CYC or a criminal record. She has few local supports.

Tuning-in to Self:

How might Terry be feeling as she prepares herself for the interview with Mrs. Barlow?

Tuning-in to Other:

How might Clara Barlow be feeling as she anticipates the visit from Terry Jenkins?

Jenkins/Barlow Scenario and Preparation (cont'd)

Tuning-in to the Environmental Situation:

- (a) How might Clara Barlow be feeling about her current situation?

- (b) Are there any safety considerations that Terry Jenkins needs to pay attention to? How?

Purpose of the Interview:

Terry Jenkins' purposes in this interview are as follows:

- to engage Mrs. Barlow
 - Greeting.
 - Brief statement of purpose.
 - Clarify how you would like to proceed.
 - Check on client understanding. (Reaching for feedback)
 - Clarify/answer questions as needed.
- to gain an accurate picture of the client's situation and her experience with CYS
 - Ask questions.
 - Display understanding of client feelings.
 - Give brief feedback/summary to client of your understanding of the client's situation.
- to determine how best to work effectively with the client
 - Ask questions.
 - Display understanding of client feelings.
 - Give brief feedback/summary to client of your understanding of how best to work with the client.
- to assess the client's understanding of and agreement with the treatment plan
 - Ask questions. Does the client have a copy of the treatment plan? Is the client in agreement with the plan? What has the client done related to the plan?
 - Display understanding of client feelings.
 - Answer questions.
 - Give feedback.
- to assess safety
 - Any instances of child being harmed?
 - What has Mrs. Barlow done to avoid harming a child?
 - In what ways does Mrs. Barlow believe she has changed or increased the likelihood that the children will be safe?
- to close interview
 - Summarize.
 - Identify next steps.