



SAFETY ASSESSMENT AND PLANNING

ASSESSING SAFETY:

- In assessing safety, at every contact with the child and/or family, you consider whether or not the risk factors identified on the Risk Assessment are being controlled adequately in order to provide the child with a safe living environment.
- Safety assessments are done for children who are being maintained at home as well as for children in placement:

For a child being maintained at home, the primary purpose of safety assessment is to prevent harm from occurring to the child(ren) while the case plan to reduce or resolve risk issues is implemented with the family;

For a child in placement, the primary purpose of safety assessment is to ensure that the child remains safe in the setting he/she is temporarily placed in.

CREATING A SAFETY PLAN:

The safety plan is a course of actions, steps, or procedures put in place to control risk factors that could potentially put a child at risk of harm. A safety plan outlines the following:

- The immediate and obvious family conditions that threaten child safety;
- The presence and capacity (or lack thereof) of persons to protect the child;
- The steps or procedures that will be followed in order to maintain the safety of the child at all times
- How each of the immediate and obvious family conditions that threaten the child's safety are being controlled by the use of the safety plan;
- The family's capacity and willingness to support the safety plan;
- Arrangements made with the family and other outside service providers to carry out the safety plan.