



## Supervisor Considerations When Assessing for Safety and Safety Planning

(2.2022)

Supervisor Questions to ask in Supervision or Staffing the safety of a child or youth with a caseworker in the field:

- **Current and Impending Danger:**
  - What are you most worried about right now?
  - How does this worry relate to the safety of the child?
  - What causes you to say that?
  - What leads you to conclude that? Share your thinking with me on how you arrived at that?
  - What led up to this situation?
  - What would the child/youth say they are most worried about right now?
  - What would the parents say they are most worried about right now?
  - How is the family managing or not managing the behaviors or circumstances?
    - Have parents been in this place before? Describe what happened?
  - Are the children or youth vulnerable to this concern? How or why not?
  - What do we know for a fact and what do we sense is true but have no concrete information for yet?
  - What questions can we ask the family and collaterals to gather more information about the concerns?
  - Has the child or youth been harmed or is there a likelihood of harm?
  - What does the safety assessment say about that?
- **Supports, strengths and protective capacities:**
  - What strengths were you able to identify with the family? How can we build on them?
  - Tell me about some services/interventions the family has used in the past that have been helpful?
  - Who are the families supports and how have they used them in the past?
  - Who else knows about what the family is going through?
  - Who does the child or youth identify as safe people in their life?
  - How does he/she/they see the problems? How does he/she/they explain the problems? What is he/she/they willing to do and what will he/she/they not do? What resources are there to draw upon -- extended family, neighbors, church, friends?
  - What information do we not yet know?
  - When you have worked with other families who have overcome (the presenting issue), what made it possible?



## Supervisor Questions to ask When a Worker has a Safety Plan:

- What are the behaviorally based action steps?
  - How do we know they are working?
  - How are they controlling for the safety concern reflected in the safety assessment?
- How did we engage the family in the creation of the safety plan?
  - How are we engaging them in any follow-up or changes that need to be made for the plan?
  - Is it appropriate/are we able to engage the child/youth in the safety plan?
- What has our follow-up/supervision of the safety plan looked like?
  - How is the caseworker ensuring the plan is being followed?
- How is the safety plan documented in trails?
- How long has the safety plan been in place?
  - What do we need to see to know we can move away from the safety plan?
- What are our next steps to help mitigate the safety concern?

