

A silver key and a green paper cutout of the state of Minnesota are placed on a wooden surface. The key is positioned vertically, and the green cutout is to its right. The text 'SAFETY IN CPS FOR OUT OF HOME CARE PROVIDERS' is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font across the center of the image.

SAFETY IN
CPS FOR OUT
OF HOME
CARE
PROVIDERS

CREATED BY THE
MENTOR TEAM

DEFINITION OF AN UNSAFE CHILD

- The presence of Impending or Present Danger Threats

And/or

- the absence of sufficient caregiver protective capacities. Parental Protective Capacities: cognitive, emotional, behavioral traits/skills/behaviors of a protective caregiver

PRESENT DANGER

An immediate, significant and clearly observable family condition that are actively occurring or “in process” and will likely result in severe harm to the child.

23 PDTs

Do not require a great deal of analysis

Can occur at any point during your work with a family

If Present Danger is identified to a vulnerable child you **MUST** take action immediate to ensure the child is safe prior to leaving the home = Protective Plan

PROTECTIVE PLANS

An immediate, short-term strategy in response to the identification of a Present Danger Threat(s) that allows you to complete a more in-depth safety assessment

IMPENDING DANGER THREAT

A foreseeable state of danger, family behaviors, attitudes, motives, emotions and/or situation pose a threat, actively or anticipated to occur and will have severe effects on child in near future.

II IDTs

Making a judgment about IDTs is much more complex and requires more analysis of information and critical thinking (as compared to PDTs)

Can occur at any point during your work with a family

Takes into account more information about the caregiver and their situation and involves an element of prediction

If an Impending Danger is identified you **MUST** take action to keep the child(ren) safe = Safety Plan (in-home or out-of-home)

SAFETY PLAN

-IN HOME

-OUT OF HOME

- A written agreement between parents/caregivers and CPS that establishes how Impending Danger Threats will be managed. The Safety Plan is implemented and active as long as the Impending Danger Threat(s) exist, and the parent/caregiver protective capacities are insufficient to assure the child is protected.
 - Focus is on control and not change.

~~DANGER THRESHOLD~~

Means by which family condition can be judged to determine safety threat or risk, assessment of observation, vulnerable child, out of control, imminent, and severity that if crossed means analysis must continue

OVOIS

Observable: Refers to family behaviors, conditions or situations representing a danger to a child that are specific, definite, real, can be seen, identified and understood and are subject to being reported, named and justified.

Vulnerable Child: Refers to a child who is dependent on others for protection and is exposed to circumstances that she or he is powerless to manage, and susceptible, accessible, and available to a threatening person and/or persons.

Out-of-Control: Refers to family behaviors, conditions or situations which are unrestrained resulting in an unpredictable and possibly chaotic family environment not subject to the influence, manipulation or ability within the family's control.

Imminent: Refers to the belief that dangerous family behaviors, conditions, or situations will remain active or become active within the next several days to a couple of weeks and will have an impact on the child within that timeframe.

Severe: Refers to the degree of harm that is possible or likely without intervention; as far as danger is concerned, the danger threshold is consistent with severe harm.

CHILD VULNERABILITY:

Refers to the child's capacity for self-protection, the child's ability to demonstrate behaviors that defends against the threats to safety and/or the child's ability to meet their own basic needs to stay safe.

Criteria that makes a child vulnerable:

- Age
- Physical disability
- Mental disability
- Provocative behaviors
- Powerlessness
- Defenselessness
- Non-assertive
- Illness
- Invisible

PARENTAL PROTECTIVE CAPACITIES:

Caregiver protective capacities are personal and parenting behavior, cognitive and emotional characteristics that specifically and directly can be associated with being protective of one's children. Caregiver protective capacities are “strengths” that are specifically associated with one's ability to perform effectively as a parent in order to provide and assure a safe environment.

SOCIAL WORK



WHAT MY FRIENDS THINK I DO



WHAT MY PARENTS THINK I DO



WHAT SOCIETY THINKS I DO



WHAT MY BOSS THINKS I DO



WHAT I THINK I DO



WHAT I ACTUALLY DO

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN

UNSAFE PARENTING

BAD PARENTING



TOOLS USED TO ASSESS SAFETY

Ongoing Services builds on the (sufficient) information gathered during Initial Assessment (7 Areas of Assessment)

The case manager completes the Protective Capacity Family Assessment (PCFA) within 60 days

PCFA is documented in the Case/Permanency Plan

The case manager creates conditions and objectives that are included in the CHIPS order

The case manager also creates behaviorally-specific goals with the parent(s)

Services implemented to help reach goals

Collaboration with OCH providers

Face to Face Visits

SAP and or CSE

CONFIRMING SAFE ENVIRONMENTS (CSE) V.S. SAFETY ANALYSIS AND PLANS (SAPS)

CSE is a process to assess child safety prior to placement in out-of-home care (OHC), in the OHC placement setting and at regularly established intervals.

At a minimum, safety in the OHC placement environment must be evaluated and confirmed every six months.

Reconfirming Safe Environments (RCSE) is a process required every 6 months AND when conditions in the placement home that might affect child safety change either positively or negatively (e.g., an adult moves in or out of the home), when the physical address of the placement changes (e.g. when a caregiver moves to a new home), when a report of alleged maltreatment is received, or when there is concern of a possible Placement Danger Threat.

SAP is a process to assess child safety based on impeding danger threats with the parents.

At minimum SAP must be evaluated and updated every 6 months but there are other times as well.

case transfers

conditions change

prior to reunification

prior to case closure

SAPs are about control not change, case planning is about change.

