

SUMMARY

The Safety House is a tool for involving children in the safety planning process and informing behaviorally-based case plans. It can be used to seek a child's perspective in creating a reunification or family preservation plan.

GETTING STARTED

- Ask the worker to review their notes from Safety House training with you.
 - What do they like about the Safety House?
 - What worries do they have about using it?
 - What questions do they have?
 - On a scale of 1-10, how comfortable do they feel trying it out?
- Discuss how they will go about trying it the first time.
- Have them role play doing the tool with you.
- Discuss how the worker will use a trauma-informed approach to using the tool (being transparent about the process, giving the child choices whenever possible, observing the child for possible trauma responses, letting the child decide if the tool can be shared with others, providing closure at the end of completing the tool).

GOAL SETTING & COACHING

- Have the worker identify one child to try out the Safety House with in the next week. Discuss at supervision:
 - How was the process of completing the tool?
 - How did the child respond?
 - Was the worker able to engage the child in a way that he or she answered questions and participated?
 - Does the worker feel the tool elicited more, or different, information if they had they interviewed the child differently? In what way?
 - What did the worker observe or learn about the impact of trauma on the child?
 - What did the worker do well that they would do again next time?
 - What is something the worker wishes they had done differently? What are their ideas to try next time?
- Have the worker identify an older youth to complete the tool with in the next week. Discuss at supervision:
 - How did the worker adapt their way of introducing and using the tool with an older youth?
 - Was there anything surprising or different about completing it with an older youth?
 - What did the worker do well that they would do again next time?
 - What would they do differently next time?
 - On a scale of 1-10, how comfortable is the worker now with using the tool?
- Have the worker talk to a child's parent(s) about their Safety House. Discuss at supervision:
 - How did the parent receive the information? Did the worker observe or learn any new information by discussing the tool with the parent?
 - Did the parent agree with the child's perspective on the rules, who can live at or visit the house, etc.?
 - Did the worker scale the parent's readiness on the Safety Path for having the child come home?
- Have the worker discuss the Safety House with the Safety Network at a Child & Family Team (CFT) meeting to develop a Family Maintenance case plan or a transition plan for return home, as applicable.
 - How did the child's Safety House inform the plan?
 - How will the network ensure the child's vision of the Safety House becomes real?
 - On a scale of 1-10, how confident is the worker in the parents' and network's ability to keep the child safe? (Explore their answer.)
- Have the worker document completion of the Safety House in CWS/CMS; review their contact note and provide feedback.
- Have the worker use information from the Safety House to create a behaviorally-based case plan. Discuss:
 - How did use of the Safety House make this case plan different than service-based case plans?
 - What does the worker think they did well in creating the case plan? What is one thing they would change for next time?
- Have the worker incorporate the Safety House into a court report. Discuss: What do they think they did well in the report? What would they change for next time?

