SAFETY PLAN TEMPLATE

October 25, 2013

Explanation: This will provide a brief overview of what to expect when using the new Safety Plan template. This template is replacing the current Safety Plan template and is required for all users.

Benefit:	**Who is impacted**:
• Information prefills from the previous safety plan and can be edited, thereby reducing data entry time • Provides ability to print and upload signed copy	• Child Protective Investigators and Supervisors • Case Managers and Supervisors • FSFN users who view Safety Plans

Policy / Decision surrounding practice:

1. **Use of the Safety Plan Template.** All users will be required to use the new safety plan template, regardless of their security profile and training in the new practice model. Locally developed safety plans will no longer be permissible.

2. **Present or Impending Danger**. The investigator <u>will be required</u> to select one of two options - "present danger" or "impending danger" for the "Safety Plan Purpose." This selection must be made using the following definitions:

    • **Present Danger:** An *immediate, significant,* and *clearly observable* family behavior or condition that is *actively occurring* in the present, and is *already endangering* or *threatening to endanger* a child.

      o Immediate: The investigator is in the midst of the danger the child is subject to. The threatening family condition is happening now and requires an immediate response on the part of the investigator.
      o Significant: The family condition is immediately threatening to a child and is dramatic, graphic or notable in its damaging and harmful effect on the child.

    • **Impending Danger:** A "*state of danger*" in which family behaviors, attitudes, motives, emotions or situations pose a threat that <u>may not be currently active</u> *but can be anticipated to have severe effects on a child at any time*.

      o <u>Imminence:</u> The assessment identifies threats to a child's safety that, while not occurring in the present tense, are likely to become active within the immediate or near future.

      o <u>Severity</u>: Harm to a child that has resulted in or is likely to result in severe pain, serious injury, acute or grievous suffering, significant impairment, terror or death.

      o <u>Observable</u>: The threat is evidenced in explicit, unambiguous ways. It can be clearly described and articulated.

o Out-of-Control: The family behaviors, conditions or circumstances that can affect a child are unrestrained, unmanaged, without limits or extremely hard to manage. The conditions are out of the family's control and not subject to influence or manipulation.

o Vulnerable: A child is vulnerable to a specific, identifiable threat within the family. The child is dependent on others in the family for protection from the identified threat.

3. **Danger Threats Description.** The investigator <u>will be required</u> to describe the specific safety concerns that would pose immediate or serious harm or threats of harm. Consider factors that pertain to child vulnerabilities, protective capacities, and signs of immediate or impending danger. NOTE: *If you have been trained in the new practice model and have had your security profile reset, you will have access to templates for the 11 danger threats. If you have not been trained and do not have the security profile reset, you will need to describe the safety concerns.*

4. **Reason Plan is No Longer Required.** When a safety plan is terminated, a termination date will be entered. This will automatically enable the "Reason Plan is No Longer Required" drop down list. The investigator or case manager <u>will be required</u> to document the reason from the drop down list.

5. **Closure and Open Safety Plans**. An investigation must not be closed if there is an open Safety Plan and the case is not being transferred to case management.

Training: FSFN Multi Media Training Resources are posted on the Center for Child Welfare's FSFN website: http://centerforchildwelfare.fmhi.usf.edu/FSFN/FSFNTraining.shtml

Safety Planning – E-learning module: http://centervideo.forest.usf.edu/fsfnenduser/caselifesafe/start.html

Present and Impending Danger – E-learning module: http://centervideo.forest.usf.edu/safetymethod/module2/start.htm

Resources: User Guides, How Do I Guides, Topic Papers, Reference Data are posted on the Center for Child Welfare's FSFN website: http://centerforchildwelfare.fmhi.usf.edu/FSFN/FSFNactivation.shtml

CONTACT INFO: If you have a question, submit it to the Center for Child Welfare's "FAQ" tab: http://centerforchildwelfare.fmhi.usf.edu/FAQs/AskaFAQ.shtml