

TRAINER VERSION
Present Danger Case Scenarios

Hotline Scenario #1:

There is concern about the mother's ability to function and care for the newborn due to her history of IV drug use and mental illness. There is concern about the father's ability to care for the newborn due to his history of drug abuse and recent state of presenting impaired due to a substance. At the time of the child's birth on 1/1/XX and in the past, the mother was rude and not acknowledging she has issues. In November the mother was in and out of labor and delivery due to problems with her pregnancy. The mother's mood changed from one instance to the next. The mother is very labile. While in the hospital, the mother wouldn't follow instruction. The mother stated she could do whatever she wanted though it was unsafe for her and the unborn child. The mother refused to follow medical advice. The mother has a history of depression and mental disorder. In the past, the mother was hospitalized in the psychiatric unit at Tallahassee Regional Hospital. The last admission was 2 years ago. The mother is under the father's control and she will do what he wants her to do. The mother has a history of IV drug use prior to her pregnancy. She used cocaine and opiates. The mother had multiple hospital admissions because she was sick and suffering from a condition that is secondary to her cocaine and opiate use. The mother was residing with the grandmother prior to delivery. The Grandmother has all the supplies needed opt care for the child. The father wasn't involved with the mother for a period of time and unknown reason. Now the mother is going to reside in the father's home with the child. There is concern about the child living at the father's home due to it being unsanitary and filthy and all the household members smoke. During delivery the father disappeared at times and then returned presenting under the influence of a substance. The father presents disheveled with extremely large blood shot eyes, hyper. He was speaking and walking quickly and abruptly. The father wouldn't allow the mother to speak. He answered questions for her and the mother referred to the father when spoken to. The father has cuts all over his face for an unknown reason. The father has a history of drug use; the substance is unknown. The father was instructed to remove his shirt before making contact with the child due to the smell of cigarette smoke.

Present Danger Assessment Scenario #1:

Baby is one month old and not of an age or cognitive ability to care for herself. The mother suffers from untreated and unresolved depression and has been baker acted in the past. Friends and relatives have expressed concerns for the mother's ability to parent the child due to the mother's immaturity, unresolved mental health issues and lack of impulse control. Friends and relatives also reported concerns that the mother is uninterested in caring for the child. The mother's mood is erratic, from one extreme to the next. Mother has admitted to a history of substance use, including purchasing drugs with the father and using IV drugs. The father was observed to have fresh track marks on his arms. The mother is aware of the father's substance use. Friends and relatives have observed parents

under the influence. The mother is immature and does not have the ability to make good decisions regarding her own safety or the safety of the child.

Present Danger Identified:

Yes

No

Present Danger Threat Identified:

Parents are violent, impulsive, or acting dangerously, however based upon the information and justification, this threat is not supported.

Justification:

Immediate: Child is one month old, residing in the home with mother and father-where there are concerns regarding the substance use and ability to care.

Significant: The information presented is significant in regards to the caretaking of the child and the parents current drug usage.

Observable: There are a lot of buzz words-but what do they mean? What is meant by mom's behavior or her mental health? How are either manifesting right now? The observable regarding the father's track marks.

During debrief emphasize with participants that while the information is very concerning, the narrative the worker provides could be more descriptive in regards to the child, the household, and the current behaviors that are occurring in the home.

Hotline Scenario #2:

Reported indicated that Ms. Masters has a severe crack cocaine addiction. She is constantly in debt to the drug dealers in the area and has had the children exposed to the dealers threatening to harm her due to debts. In addition the children, ages 2 and 8, can articulate to family and friends how their mother uses the crack cocaine, as well as how she has used powder cocaine in front of them. The older child has threatened to stab the drug dealers if they continue to come around to the home. The father's to the children are involved, however Ms. Masters' will often keep the children from them in order to get money from them for drugs.

Present Danger Assessment Scenario #2:

1/18

5:30 pm

Initial Contact

Home Visit w/Desiree Masters, Johnny Billings, and children

The worker interviewed Ms. Desiree Masters at 217 Blossom Court, Lot #22, Lakeland FL on 1/18. Ms. Masters was informed of the allegation of threatened harm due to her alleged drug use. Ms. Masters stated that Mr. Billings told her that he had called DCF. Ms. Masters stated that she lives in the mobile home with her children, and that Mr. Billings is the father to her youngest child. Ms. Masters agreed to a rapid urine drug screen and tested positive for cocaine and marijuana. Ms. Masters stated that she did have a cocaine problem and that it has recently gotten much worse because she got an income tax refund check and spent it on cocaine. Ms. Masters stated that she had last used powder cocaine a yesterday and that she had smoked marijuana that same day. Ms. Masters denied using in front of her children and stated that she does use at home, but it's when the children are with their babysitter, "Wendy."

Ms. Masters stated that she has had drug problems in the past, and that she was at Fremont Treatment Center for three months when she was about 16 or 17 years old. Ms. Masters stated that she went there because of marijuana use, but that she did not stop using it. Ms. Masters stated that she first began using cocaine around that same time, and it got so bad that Jalon had to stay with her mother for 2 years. Ms. Masters stated that she thinks she may be pregnant again.

Ms. Masters stated that she works at Popeye's Chicken and that she makes approximately \$250/week. Ms. Masters stated that Mr. Billings works part-time and that he makes about \$85/week. Ms. Masters stated that she did not renew her food stamps like she was supposed to and that they have lapsed. Ms. Masters stated that she does not have any medical insurance for herself or Shannia because she has not applied for Medicaid. Ms. Masters stated that Jalon has BC/BS insurance through Mr. and Mrs. Bernstein. Ms. Masters stated that she had been trying to control her cocaine habit by working a lot but that it was not successful.

Mr. Billings stated that he told Ms. Masters that he did not know what else to do to help her. Mr. Billings stated that Ms. Masters is addicted to cocaine—both powder and crack. Mr. Billings stated that she has just received an income tax refund check, and that she spent the entire amount on cocaine. Mr. Billings stated that Ms. Masters gets the cocaine from people who live there in the same mobile

home park. Mr. Billings stated that Ms. Masters works at Popeye's Fried Chicken and that she works long hours trying to stay away from the cocaine dealers. Mr. Billings stated that Ms. Masters does not hide her drug use from her children and that she has used in front of her children.

Mr. Billings stated that Jalon found her "crack pipe" the other day, went outside, and tried to throw the pipe on the roof to keep her from getting to it. Mr. Billings stated that Jalon gets very upset about his mother's drug use and threatened to stab her one time in an attempt to get her to stop using. Mr. Billings stated that Ms. Masters' mother's name is Catherine Bernstein and that he has been reporting to her how bad Ms. Masters' drug problem has gotten worse lately. Mr. Billings stated that he knows Ms. Masters has had drug problems in the past because Jalon lived with Mrs. Bernstein for about 2 years. Mr. Billings stated that he has to come to the home every day because Ms. Masters is not taking care of the children or the home. Mr. Billings stated that he works for Craftsman Warehousing and Rental. Mr. Billings stated that if both he and Ms. Masters have to work he takes the children to a babysitter by the name of "Wendy."

Present Danger Identified:

Yes

No

Present Danger Threat Identified:

Parent/Legal Guardian/caregiver is violent, impulsive, or acting dangerously that seriously harms the child or will likely seriously harm the child.

Justification:

Immediate: Currently occurring, as mom tested positive for cocaine. Child confirming use in the home and awareness. Use is not isolated or predictable in regards to the mother. Children are 2 and 8 years old, relying on care by their mother. Non-household member has been checking on home due to severity of the usage and neglect to the children.

Observable: Positive UA, child report, mother report, father to youngest report, relative confirmation.

Significant: Usage has left the older child in a situation where he is threatening to harm others. Young child who also has a concern for supervision and safety.

Hotline Scenario #3:

The stepfather has been touching Sara inappropriately in a sexual manner. It cannot be determined how long this has been going on. The mother has not been made aware of what the stepfather has been doing. The stepfather's actions have been upsetting to Sara.

Present Danger Assessment Scenario #3:

Sara was interviewed by CPI and LE. Sara provided detailed accounts of sexual abuse by her Stepfather William. William has sexually molesting Sara for the past several months, approximately 1-2 times a week. The molestation includes penetration. Sara reported to her friend about the abuse, which resulted in the current investigation. Sara had not disclosed the abuse to any other persons, including her mother. Sara is an only child and there are no other children in the home. The abuse is reported to have occurred after school when her mother was at work and her stepfather was home. The stepfather is unemployed and stays at home. The mother was made aware of the allegations and has responded promptly and appropriately. The mother has made alternate arrangements for both herself and Sara to stay with the MGM until LE can execute a warrant for William's arrest. The mother presented as caring, supportive, and aligned with her daughter throughout the entire course of the interview and subsequent disclosures.

Present Danger Identified:

Yes

No

Present Danger Threat Identified:

Participants may try to identify the violent and impulsive danger threat, however based upon the information to justify the decision, it would not be supported.

Justification:

While the stepfather's actions are dangerous, the actions and response by the mother create conditions that are not indicative of present danger. The mother's action mitigates the immediacy, as she has and is taking actions to provide for safety of her daughter.

Hotline Scenario #4:

Mother is a severe alcoholic and drinks until intoxication daily. The mother was sober for eight days. There was a 911 hang up call, which prompted police to go to the home. Upon arrival the mother was crying in the back room and the boyfriend was cleaning the kitchen. The mother had an old bruise under her left eye, reported to be as a result of falling off the bed and hitting her eye on a glass on the floor. The boyfriend confirmed the incident. The mother was upset and was arguing with the boyfriend and called 911 by mistake. The mother and the boyfriend were arguing and she had thrown a tray of cupcakes at his foot that caused him to bleed. The mother throws things at the boyfriend and the child when she has been drinking. It was believe that the mother was drinking that day. The child, Michael age 6, is aware of his mom's drinking and thinks that she needs help. The mother has been arrested in the past for child abuse, neglect, and battery because of her drinking problems. The boyfriend is not the biological father to Michael.

Present Danger Assessment Scenario #4:

Mother was arrested five nights ago for family violence against the boyfriend, due to her being intoxicated and throwing a pan of cupcakes at the boyfriend. The mother was released back to the home with a no violent contact order in place for the boyfriend. The mother picked Michael up from school the day of her release and has not been heard from in the past four days. Michael has not returned to school and the boyfriend has not heard from the mother or the child. The boyfriend is concerned that something might happen to Michal if he is left with the mother alone due to her excessive drinking and violence towards him and the Michael. The mother consumes alcohol daily and was only sober for the 8 days because she was hospitalized due to alcohol related medical complications. The mother has no family or friends in the area that the boyfriend is aware of and family out of state have also not heard from the mother. The mother does have a history of depression and has been Baker Acted in the past due to thoughts of harming herself.

Present Danger Identified:

Yes No

Present Danger Threat Identified:

There are reports of serious harm and the child's whereabouts cannot be ascertained and/or there is reason to believe that the family is about to flee to avoid agency intervention and/or refuses access to the child and the reported concerns is significant and indicates serious harm.

Justification:

Immediate: Yes, location of child unknown.
Significant: Yes, mother has lengthy history of alcohol abuse; to include recent hospitalization due to alcohol related medical complications. Mother recently assaulted boyfriend and was arrested. Daily alcohol use and the mother have disappeared with the

