

SCREENING GUIDE

General Questions to be asked on all referrals

What: Nature of the abuse or neglectful environment.

Where is the child now?

Where is the alleged perpetrator now?

When were the children last seen and by whom?

How long has this been occurring? Have things stayed about the same, become worse or improved?

What school does the child attend and how long are they there?

Is the child reporting how often this occurs?

Is domestic violence a concern?

Are there any weapons in the home or drug use by family members? Are there any other environmental hazards in the home (vicious animals, meth labs, criminal activity, etc.)?

Who else lives in the home? Are there other children in the home?

Questions specific to referral type

Neglect

What specifically did the reporter see?

Description of the environment and who saw it? When did they see it?

Age of children and what have they been exposed to?

Regarding the appearance of the child, what did the reporter see (clothing not appropriate for season, in poor condition, etc.)?

Emotional Abuse

What is being said to the child or what did they witness?

When, where and how often does this occur?

How is the child being affected?

Domestic Violence

Where were the children during the incident? Were the police called?

Who called 9-1-1 and at what time? Were any charges filed or was either parent incarcerated? Was the child(ren) physically injured?

Did child(ren) make any statements about how they "feel" regarding what occurred?

Lack of Supervision

How often and what time of day does it occur?

How long is the child(ren) left alone? Are they alone now?

Do they know where the parent goes at these times?

Physical Abuse

Did the reporter see an injury? What does it look like?

Where on the child's body is the injury?

Is medical intervention necessary?

When/where did it occur and by whom?

Have any siblings ever suffered similar abuse?

Has this happened before?

Drug Allegation

How do you know the parent is using drugs?

What substance is the parent using?

What is the impact on the child?

Is the substance accessible to the child?

Does the parent have a medical marijuana prescription?

Drug-Exposed Child

Is the mother still at the hospital? Who else is at the hospital?
Has meostat been ordered? Types and level of drugs present?
Does mom have a place to go? Do they have a car seat and other supplies?
How long will the child remain in the hospital?

Sexual Abuse

What, when, who, where and how often? Did anyone else witness the incident?
If the perpetrator is over age 10, has law enforcement been notified? Have the parents been notified?
Are there any physical indicators?
Has the child made a direct outcry? What was said?
Is the child reporting they have been inappropriately touched before?
What is the relationship of the perpetrator?

Youth in Conflict

What specific behaviors have you seen that worry you about this youth?
How often are these behaviors occurring?
When was the last time you observed it?
(If reporter is not the parent) Have you contacted the parents about this?
Response?
Describe what you know about the youth's friends? Gang involvement?
Drugs/alcohol?
Is the youth attending school?
Has the youth runaway? How many times? How long are they gone when they run?
Are there other agencies involved such as the courts or therapists?
How are the youth's behaviors affecting the family?
Does the youth have any informal supports such as mentors and/or close friends or family?

Family Coping and Community Support**Tangible Supports**

How long has the family lived in the community? How long at the current address?
Does the family have a telephone, transportation, car seats etc?
Are the adults in the home employed?
Is the family receiving any public assistance (cash assistance, food stamps, Medicaid)?

Child Information

How would you describe the child (happy, sad, worried, tired, fun loving)?
Does the child have any developmental delays or physical handicaps?
How does the child do in school and do they express any fear/apprehension of going home?
Does the child have friends?
What does the parent say about the child – how would they describe the child?

Family/Community Supports

Does the family call on others to help solve problems? Who do they call upon?
Are you familiar with any of the extended family?
Who are they and how is their relationship with the family? What do they say?

Are there aspects of your relationship with the family that, in conjunction with our intervention, might help to influence them for the better?

Family Coping/Strengths

Are the parents concerned about these problems? How did they react to you expressing concern?
How do family members usually solve this problem? What have you seen them doing?
What would you say is good about mom's/dad's parenting? What would the child say about the same?
Based on what you know, who is in charge of the family?
Has the family had any previous involvement with the law/courts? Have any children been previously removed from the home?
Are there times when the mother/father is attentive rather than neglectful? Can you tell me more about those times? What did the parent and child do instead?
What do you think contributed to the parent's responding differently?
According to what you know, how did the non-offending parent react to what occurred?
If this has happened before – how has the family addressed the situation?

Intervention

Have you taken any other action in addressing this problem, other than making this call?
Have you talked about these concerns with anyone else who knows the family?
Did you tell the parents you would be calling? How did they react?

Solutions

What do you think is the cause of the problem?
What convinced you to make this call?
What would it take to make the child safer?
How will you know when this problem has been solved?
What else happened? Is there anything else you can think of that you would like to add to this report?

Wrap-up

If this situation remained unchanged how would you rate the level of safety in the home on a scale from 0 to 10, 10 being very safe with no concerns and 0 being very dangerous?

0←-----→10

If the information that the RP is reporting is third hand information does the RP have contact information for the party or parties who have direct knowledge of the situation?