

NATIONAL RESOURCE CENTER FOR CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES

Technical Assistance Site Report



Prepared for Colorado Department of Human Services
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April 28, 2006

Technical Assistance

The Colorado Department of Human Services requested resource center technical assistance for the following 1) to conceptualize and develop a strategy for engaging and educating local agency administrators and managers, court representatives and community stakeholders regarding the state-of-art of safety intervention and implication for safety intervention policy development, 2) build safety related competencies within the Administrative Review Division (QI) in order to effectively implement a qualitative review of safety practice and decision-making, 3) consultation related to the development of safety practice and decision-making standards for Ongoing CPS, and 4) complete necessary revision/ edits to state safety policy for inclusion into Volume 7.

This previous site visit (February 2006) involved reconciling differences of opinion among county CPS agencies regarding the inclusion of specific safety intervention standards into Volume 7 policy. The decision was reached by the Safety Advisory group to revise certain aspects of the proposed safety policy, and resubmit the document for review by county directors and administrators. Since the February meeting there have been several attempts by state office staff and individuals on the safety advisory group to reach out and communicate with county agency leadership regarding the most recent changes to the proposed safety intervention policy.

Site Visit

The technical assistance site visit occurred on April 28, 2006. The site visit involved meeting with statewide District Court judges, magistrates, county attorneys, guardian ad litem, respondent attorneys, state office and county child welfare administrators. The meeting focused on Colorado's Assessment Continuum, which includes risk assessment, safety intervention, and family assessment and case planning. NRCCPS developed and presented a workshop on safety intervention concepts and criteria that support practice and decision-making standards in the safety policy. The workshop titled, *Safety Intervention Concepts: Implications for Judicial Oversight*, outlined what judicial representatives should expect from CPS with respect to a standard of practice and decision-making for safety intervention (see attached workshop slides).

Next Steps

- The Safety Advisory Group is scheduled to meet on May 17, 2006 to review the most recent draft of the safety intervention policy and attempt to finalize safety practice and decision-making standards for submission and acceptance into Volume 7 policy.