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# **SYSTEMATIC CHILD SAFETY INTERVENTION AND CASE PLANNING**

**NATIONAL RESOURCE CENTER  
FOR CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES  
JUNE 2006**

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# Objectives

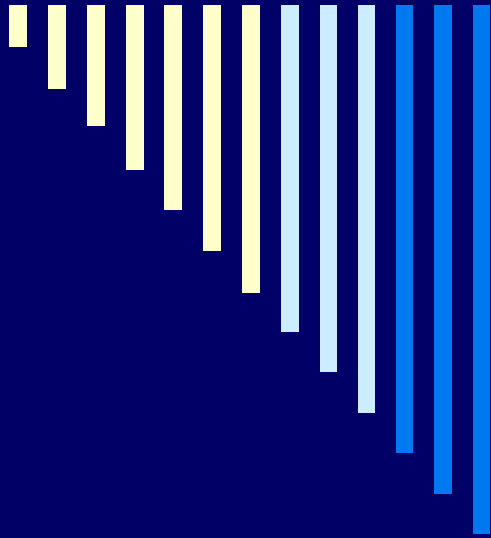
- ❑ To emphasize systemic nature of safety intervention
  - ❑ To identify specific safety intervention responsibilities for ongoing CPS staff
  - ❑ Definition and explanation of the Protective Capacity Assessment (PCA)
  - ❑ What you need to know to conduct a PCA
  - ❑ To identify safety influences and protective capacities that will be addressed in a PCA
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# Objectives

- ❑ To demonstrate how to facilitate PCA discovery:
    - Engagement
    - Explanation of the PCA process
    - Reinforcing caregiver choice
    - Explaining why CPS is involved
    - Seeking commitment to participate
  - ❑ To consider the purposes of a case plan
  - ❑ To integrate/document safety concerns in a case plan
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# Introduction to Ongoing Safety Intervention



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# Considering Your Perspective Concerning Ongoing CPS Practice and Decision Making

- What should be the primary reason for “opening” a case for ongoing?
  - What is the “bottom line” for what represents success in ongoing cases?
  - What is the intervention focus of the case plan?
  - What is the ongoing worker’s role in working with caregivers?
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# Systematic Safety Intervention

**Emphasis on Ongoing CPS**

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# The Mentality Behind Ongoing Safety Intervention

- Safety is the primary basis for intervention throughout the life of the case.
  - Ongoing CPS can be more clearly defined around the use of safety concepts and criteria.
  - The case planning process should be integrated with the Initial Assessment.
    - Use initial assessment information standard.
    - Apply consistent concepts and criteria.
    - Focus intervention [from broader during initial assessment to more specific during ongoing CPS.]
  - The case planning process can be structured in such a way to encourage and direct caregiver involvement and establish consistent intervention objectives and decisions.
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# Federal Requirements for Ongoing Safety Intervention (ASFA)

- *Safety Expectation throughout CPS involvement with families*
  - *Explicitly states that case plans must address child safety concerns and treatment strategies must address the family conditions related to why safety threats exist.*
  - *Requires that client progress concerned with safety issues are integrated into case plans & measured.*
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## Federal Requirements for Ongoing Safety Intervention (CFSR)

- Families have enhanced capacity to provide for their children's needs:
    - *Caregiver involvement in case plans, and*
    - *Case plans (services) are individualized and directed at caregiver and child needs.*
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# The Protective Capacity Assessment (PCA)

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# Protective Capacity Assessment

*A Process for Integrating Safety  
Concerns into Case Plans*

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# The Protective Capacity Assessment Is Designed to...

- Build collaborative partnerships.
  - Direct conversations with caregivers regarding identified Safety Influences.
  - Raise awareness and seek agreement with caregivers regarding “what must change.”
  - Focus case plans (change strategies) on enhancing diminished caregiver protective capacities.
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# Protective Capacity Assessment Decisions

- ❑ Are safety influences being sufficiently managed?
  - ❑ Can existing protective capacities (strengths) be built upon to make changes?
  - ❑ What is the relationship between safety influences and diminished caregiver protective capacities?
  - ❑ What is the caregiver's perspective or awareness regarding safety influences and diminished caregiver protective capacities?
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# Protective Capacity Assessment Decisions

- What are caregivers ready, willing and able to work on in the case plan?
  - What are the areas of disagreement regarding what needs to change?
  - What change strategy (case plan) will be used to assist in enhancing diminished protective capacities?
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# Protective Capacity Assessment Structure

## □ Four Intervention Stages:

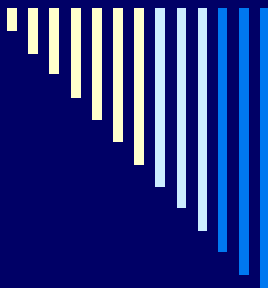
- Preparation Stage
  - Introduction Stage
  - Discovery Stage
  - Change Strategy and Case Planning Stage
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# Objectives of PCA Created Case Plans

- Primary Objective
    - Enhanced caregiver protective capacities
  - Secondary Objective
    - Elimination, reduction and/or ability to manage safety threats
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## 4 Primary Areas of Critical Evaluation When Beginning the PCA

- Sufficiency of Information related to 6 Assessment Questions (initial assessment)
  - Safety Threat Justification and Accuracy
  - Sufficiency of In-Home Safety Plan or Placement Safety Response
  - Baseline of Existing Caregiver Protective Capacities (initial assessment)
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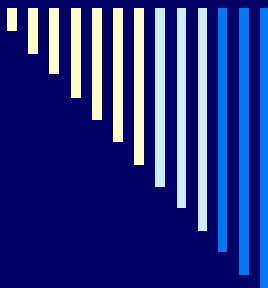
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# Sufficiency Checklist

## A Tool to Prepare

- *Gauge information provided through initial assessment*
  - *Safety Determination Review*
  - *Plan next steps in PCA*
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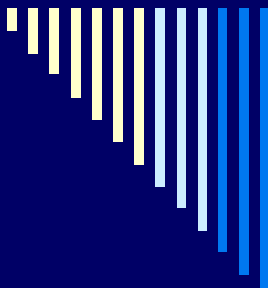


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# Russell Case Review; Sufficiency Checklist

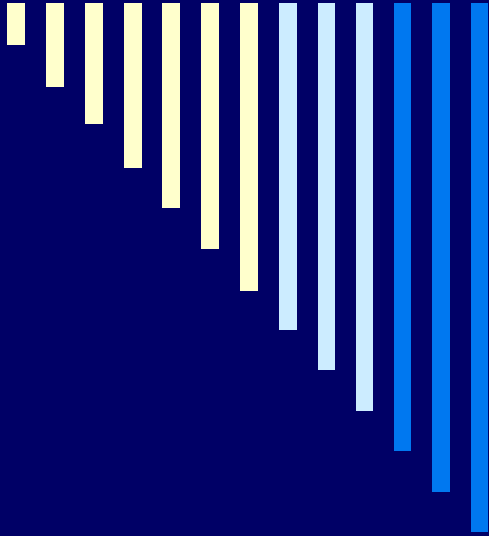
- ❑ *Overall information sufficiency?*
  - ❑ *How did safety threats occur in the family?*
  - ❑ *Can the family adequately manage and control for the child's safety without direct assistance from CPS?*
  - ❑ *If the child is placed out of the home, can consideration be given to an in-home plan?*
  - ❑ *With in-home plans, are safety responses geared towards specifically controlling safety threats?*
  - ❑ *Protective capacity baseline*
  - ❑ *Implications for immediate responses*
  - ❑ *Planning for introduction and discovery stages of the PCA*
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# Preparation results in the ability to plan....

- *Immediate/urgent responses required*
  - *Time management*
  - *Order of interviews*
  - *Initial ideas on the number of interviews required*
  - *Interview logistics*
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# PCA Intervention Stage 3: Discovery





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# PCA Intervention Stage 3: Discovery    Review

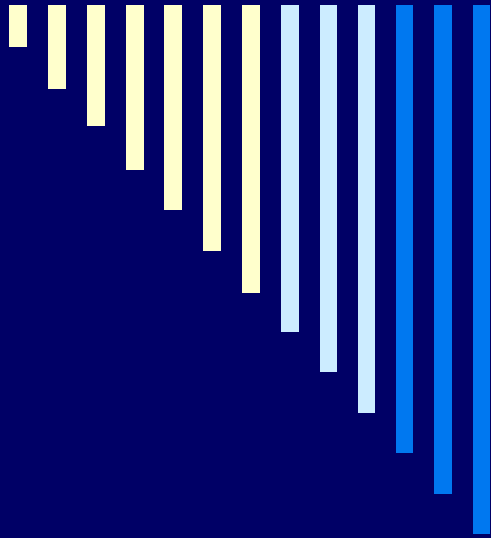
- Discover what must change.
  - Focus on diminished protective capacities.
  - Seek agreement.
  - Process:
    - Review purpose.
    - Stay in touch with caregiver feelings.
    - Be clear about objective: what must change to create a safe home.
    - Emphasize enhanced protective capacities.
    - Consider the relationship between safety influences and diminished protective capacities.
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# Selecting Safety Threats and Protective Capacities from the Initial Assessment Exercise

- Focus on Angela Russell.
  - Evaluate/select enhanced protective capacities, safety threats and related diminished protective capacities for consideration during discovery.
  - Refer to Caregiver Protective Capacities Examples from Session 5 for prompting.
  - After identifying content for discovery sessions, describe how you will introduce and talk about these areas to Angela.
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# Discovering What Must Change with Angela Russell

**Video Demonstrations and Critical  
Analysis**

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# Angela Russell Discovery

**Identification of Existing Enhanced  
Caregiver Protective Capacities**

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# Identifying What Must Change

- Clarity - simplicity
  - Openness to Understand
  - Sensitive to Client's Point of View
  - Approach to relating safety influences to diminished protective capacities
  - Angela's understanding
  - Establishes what must change
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# Considering Areas of Disagreement

- Support for Self-Determination

  - 1..2..3..4..5..6..7..8..9..10

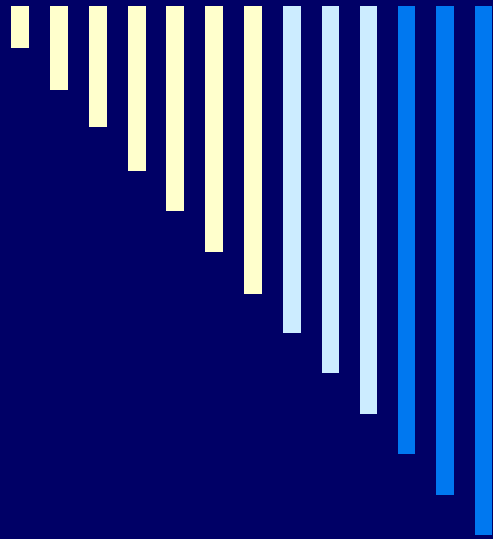
- Examining Areas of Disagreement

  - 1..2..3..4..5..6..7..8..9..10

- Reality Testing

  - 1..2..3..4..5..6..7..8..9..10

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Considering Areas of Agreement about What Must Change and Seeking Acceptance

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# Documenting the PCA and Case Plan

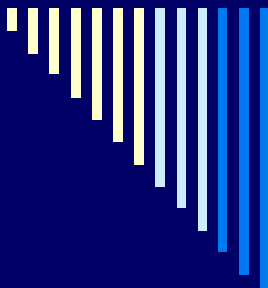
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# Integrating Safety Concerns into Case Plans (ASFA)

- Safety Concerns
    - Safety Threats
    - Caregiver Protective Capacities
  - Point of Intervention
    - Diminished caregiver protective capacities
  - Objective
    - Eliminate or reduce safety threats by enhancing diminished caregiver protective capacities
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# Purpose for having a case plan

- Agreement
  - Responsibility
  - Organized
  - Outcomes
  - Benchmarks
  - Communication
  - Individualized
  - Focused
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# Prioritizing in the Case Plan

- Areas of mutuality
  - Issues that are most urgent
  - Areas of least resistance; reinforce movement
  - Greatest impact on overall change
  - Availability of resources
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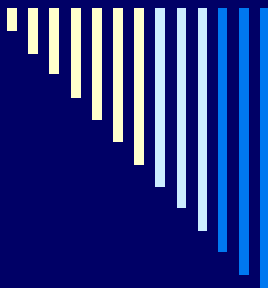


# Where Do Things Go?

**Documenting Safety Concerns in  
the Case Plan**

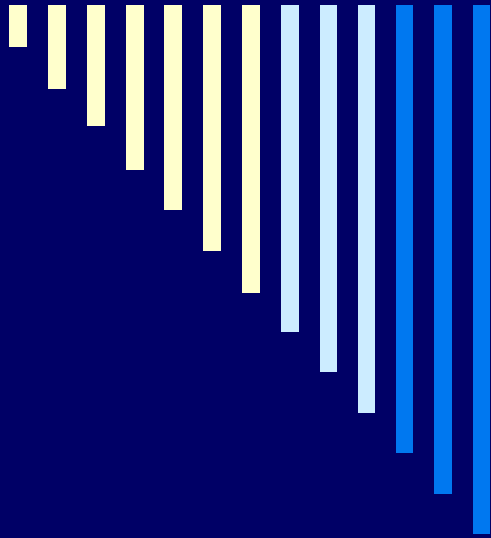
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How do I select caregiver protective capacities (outcomes) to be addressed by the PCA Case Plan?

- Reliable
  - Compelling
  - Defining
  - Genesis
  - Sum
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# Integrate Safety Concerns/Document a Case Plan

Russell Case

Individual Exercise

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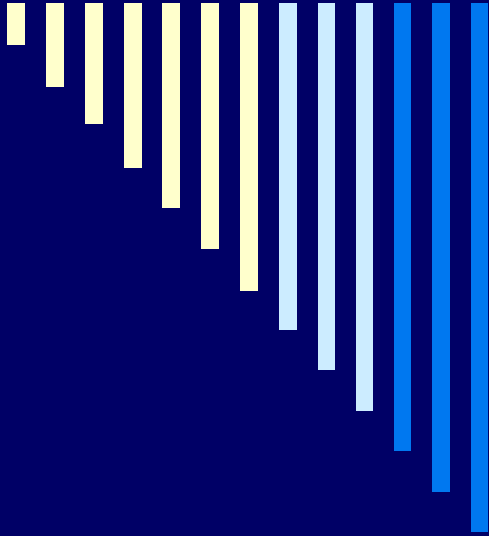
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# Russell Case Plan

**Exercise Debrief**

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Thanks!

**The End**

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