

NATIONAL RESOURCE CENTER FOR CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES

Technical Assistance Site Report



Prepared for Illinois Department of Children and Family Services

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Dates of onsite technical assistance summarized in this report:
March 10 and April 19, 2006

Technical Assistance Request

The Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) requested technical assistance (TA) for the following purpose:

“DCFS is requesting T/TA from the National Resource Center for Child Protective Services to assist DCFS in improving internal policies and procedures regarding safety plans. Off-site and on-site T/TA will assist DCFS in revising official policies and designing more effective curricula to train casework staff on revised policies.”

The request further identified that this target area for assistance was in an effort to comply with the Federal CFSR/PIP process, specifically to reduce repeat maltreatment.

Site Visits

The technical assistance site visits occurred on March 10 and April 19, 2006. Participating in the site visits were Terry Roe Lund from the NRCCPS and several staff from different program areas within the Department and local offices.

The NRCCPS presented information on the state of the art of safety intervention, pulling together information known through the Federal requirements of ASFA, the CFSR process and national trends and literature.

The state of the art information was then compared to and contrasted with current safety decision making practice in Illinois. NRCCPS facilitated discussion regarding the meaning and implications of any changes in current Illinois practice.

Next Steps

The next TA visit is scheduled for May 12, 2006. In the meantime, the information considered at the March and April site visits will continued to be studied by DCFS with any recommendations shared with the Director.