

NATIONAL RESOURCE CENTER FOR CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES

Technical Assistance Report



Prepared for Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
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On Site Dates: November 18 & 19, 2009

Please indicate which responses were employed in this T/TA:

- Technical Assistance
- Training
- Phone Consultation
- Referral to another NRC
- Referral to Other Organization
- Review of Policy and Materials
- Publications Provided
- Secondary Research
- Other/Group Facilitation

Situation and Technical Assistance Request

Idaho Department of Health and Welfare requested technical assistance in the following areas:

- Consultation and training-of-trainers in conducting initial and ongoing safety assessments with families;
- Assessing safety in relative and non-relative foster homes;
- Development of safety plans and re-assessing safety prior to reunification and case closure with inclusion of services to prevent re-entry.

Technical Assistance Provided

Off-site technical assistance has included the development of decision trees to determine whether an in-home safety plan is appropriate and, for out-of-home safety plans, whether placement with a relative or in a foster home is appropriate. A review of policy related to safety assessment and planning was also conducted and recommendations made for changes to improve safety assessment and planning practices.

A curriculum for safety assessment and planning was developed and a Training of Trainers session conducted in November 2009. State and local supervisors and administrators participated in the training. Key law enforcement officials were also invited to participate. Supervisors were charged with the responsibility of training their staff and local law enforcement officials by January 1, 2010.