

Deciding the Level of Quality for the Relative Resource Narrative Entry

Instructions: *Read the accompanying narrative entry and determine how well the entry meets the Decisive Factors listed below. Indicate the factors that were met, partially met and those that were not met. Add comments to support your decisions.*

Case Name _____
 Relative Resource Narrative Date _____
 Caseworker Name: _____

MACWIS# _____
 Date Reviewed _____

Decisive Factor	Met	Partially Met	Unmet	Comments/Line #
1. Names, addresses, phone numbers, household composition, DOB's				
2. Evidence that the worker took steps to identify and attempted to personally contact and interview each maternal and paternal family member in a way that invites their potential participation with the child. (And any exception to this is documented.)				
3. Relationships with this child—past and present and hopes for the future are explained				
4. There is evidence that prior Relative Resource entries have been reviewed and have been incorporated into the current relative exploration.				
5. Indication of what each maternal and paternal family member will offer toward supporting this child (if safe) in addition or instead of placement.				
6. Identification of what supports the child, the parents and the maternal and paternal family member will have available to them, should they become very involved with the care of this child.				
7. Indication of whether each maternal and paternal family member would attend Family Team Meetings, if invited.				
8. A thorough exploration is done with the child, considering his/her experiences, thoughts and feelings about each maternal and paternal family member that has been identified. Reference to the date of the face-to-face contact with the child is noted.				
9. There is a specific explanation for the reasons why any relative has been excluded from being considered as a resource. Refer to the location of supporting information.				
10. The entry identifies the 'Next Steps' for future exploration				

Conclusions about this relative exploration:

CASE STUDY

Case Names and Information

Mother: Barbara, age 23

Father: Bob, age 20

Children: Chelsea-3
Dustin-2

Barbara and Bob have never been married. They have two children, Chelsea and Dustin. The children live with Barbara with Bob having only sporadic contact. The children are at risk of removal due to Barbara's lack of providing adequate supervision and care. Chelsea had a minor burn when she was trying to toast a pop tart without supervision. Bob has been homeless for the past two years. He has not been able to maintain a home or a job due to his serious substance use.

Supervising for Comprehensive Relative Identification and Exploration

A	
1	Relative Resources Narrative Entry:
2	Barbara's family:
3	Mother: Lucy (Packard) Rhodes, DOB 6-19-65, Criminal History check: negative.
4	No MACWIS record. Husband Brian, 4 Chase Rd., Gorham #839-3698
5	Met with Lucy on 5-22-07 Lucy has a five year old daughter, Cathy.
6	Lucy has some health problems and does not work.
7	She explains that it is tough to take care of Cathy 5 right now, but she is managing.
8	She takes pain medication and Xanax on a regular basis for headaches and anxiety.
9	She would like to be more involved in her grandchildren's lives but is not sure how, right now.
10	Lucy states she baby-sits occasionally.
11	She is seeing a therapist for pain management techniques and anxiety.
12	Lucy states she would like to come to the next FTM.
13	
14	Lucy reported that her husband, Brian Rhodes was emotionally abusive to Barbara;
15	the two of them do not get along at all and Barbara has been unwilling to live in the home with him for many years.
16	Brian was arrested recently (Oct. '06) for drug possession.
17	According to Lucy, he is a recovering alcoholic; she states he has been clean for years (since his relationship with Lucy.)
18	
19	Father: (absent parent) Herbert Adley. DOB 12-3-62
20	According to Lucy and Barbara, Herbert is an active alcoholic, physically abusive, extensive criminal history.
21	Lucy left him when Barbara was a baby.
22	Herbert never had contact with Barbara and has never seen Barbara's children.
23	He is currently in Vermont, "hiding from the law," according to what Lucy hears.
24	She doesn't have an address or phone # for him.
25	
26	Maternal Aunt: Lucy's sister Christine Fall lives in Payson Place, Portland, PH: 772-0186.
27	Phone contact with Christine 5-23-07
28	Christine has a 15 year old daughter Mary Lee at home and a grown son Jonathan (22) who is on his own.
29	Christine did not think she can be a resource for Chelsea and Dustin because there is a feud between Christine and Lucy about Brian.
30	Christine says that Brian may not be drinking any more, but she has trusted friends who say they've seen him using pot.
31	
32	Maternal Uncle: Christine Fall verified that Lucy's statement that their brother Burt lives on Cousin's Island.
33	His wife is physically disabled and his wife's elderly mother also lives with them.
34	Burt is a fisherman.
35	Christine and Lucy agree that he would be unable to be a resource for Chelsea and Dustin.
36	

Supervising for Comprehensive Relative Identification and Exploration

A	
37	Maternal Uncle: Lucy's brother Mac Packard lives at 27 Maple St., Biddeford.
38	He recently served 10 years in prison in New York state for drug related charges.
39	Christine and Barbara report that he is now clean and sober and living in recovery with a girlfriend and their infant son.
40	He has been supportive of Barbara getting her "act together" and making a good life for herself and Chelsea and Dustin.
41	They spend holidays together and Barbara baby-sits for their baby.
42	However, he could not be a placement resource due to his recent criminal history.
43	
44	Bob's family:
45	Bob does not seem close to his family.
46	He lives with Frank and Julie Perkins, (no relation) in Buxton.
47	Bob is unemployed and never went for his driver's license.
48	He does have a high school diploma.
49	
50	Mother: Sadie Gilbert, Ridge Road, Westbrook. 854-2869 Cell ##615-5647.
51	Works at CCCA Westbrook, #856-7544 x3357.
52	MACWIS history: 17 year old daughter Melissa still lives home with her mother, attends Westbrook HS
53	DHHS removed Sadie's three children twice due to serious drug abuse while she was married to the children's father Dennis Gilbert.
54	Contact with Mrs. Gilbert 6-28-07
55	She stated that she finally got clean and sober, got her children back, and divorced Dennis.
56	She reports she maintains a substance-free lifestyle and is an active member of NA.
57	She is not living with a man at this time.
58	If Barbara would let her, she'd baby-sit for the kids.
59	She is willing to come to an FTM
60	
61	Father: Dennis Gilbert, prison (Windham?).
62	Dennis has been serving a second term in prison for drug trafficking.
63	No contact with Bob or the family any longer.
64	Dennis is a narcotics addict of long standing.
65	
66	Siblings: Melissa 17, lives with her mother, attends Westbrook HS.
67	Sasha Gilbert, 21, boyfriend Charles Whitcomb, 23.
68	Sasha and Charles just had a baby girl, Wanda, prematurely.
69	Baby is now home, doing well.
70	Sasha and Charles are adjusting to life as new parents and are thrilled to have a healthy baby.
71	Charles recently got a job in Portland.
72	Sasha and Wanda are staying with Sadie temporarily, but they are planning to find a place in Portland so Charles can keep his job and Wanda will be closer to MMC.

Supervising for Comprehensive Relative Identification and Exploration

	A
73	
74	Maternal Uncles:
75	
76	Jacob Mcleod: Married with two small children.
77	Jacob is a machinist at Bath Iron Works.
78	His wife, Susan is a seamstress.
79	Jacob stated that he would really like to get to know Chelsea and Dustin.
80	He'd like his children to have a relationship with them, but Bob has not included them in his family activities.
81	He stated that he has met Barbara a few times, but they don't really have a relationship.
82	
83	Bruce Mcleod, Sr. DHHS took Bruce's son Bruce Jr. "BJ" Mcleod into custody in 2005 due to serious drug abuse and neglect of BJ's special needs (he is deaf)
84	Bruce Sr. could not be considered as a resource.

Self Assessment
Supervising for Comprehensive Relative Identification and Exploration

Name _____

Date _____

Check the box that indicates to what extent you....

Statement:	Never	Sometimes	Most of the time	Always
1. My workers and I fully demonstrate the Practice Model in relation to Identification and Exploration of Relatives				
2. My workers can articulate what is expected of them related to the identification and exploration of relatives.				
3. I focus on this area of practice in supervision sessions.				
4. I orient new staff to this practice area.				
5. I hold unit meetings on this topic.				
6. I assist workers in planning and preparation to complete relative exploration interviews.				
7. I am skilled at helping workers prepare to interview relatives.				
8. I assess each worker's strengths and challenges in this practice area.				
9. I review each worker's exploration narrative entries for quality according to policy expectations.				
10. I check to see exploration narrative entries are made within timeframes.				
11. I ensure that relatives are considered and invited to Family Team Meetings done by my unit.				
12. I ensure that the plans from my unit include roles for extended family				
13. I ensure that children who are in my unit will be cared for by relatives if they need to be separated from their parents.				
14. I ensure that workers in my unit facilitate rich relationships between children and their extended family members.				
15. My own supervisor is aware of how I am doing in this area of practice and what my development needs are.				

**Office Activity
Values & Beliefs Clarification**

If attitudes drive behavior, it is important to identify them, determine which ones still serve us in meeting our goals and manage any attitudes that no longer serve us. Some less helpful child welfare attitudes across the country that relate to the utilization of relatives have included such sentiments as: **‘The apple doesn’t fall far from the tree’** or **‘Once an abuser, always an abuser’**, or **‘This child is attached. We will do irrevocable harm if we now place with relatives’**. And there are probably lots of others that you can think of.

Instructions: *In your office, reflecting individually or in groups, keeping the above sentiments in mind and being open to examining your own values and beliefs please answer/ discuss the following questions. Make some notes about what you are reminded about or discover through discussion, for yourselves. This is intended to assist you in preparing for your planning conversation with your own supervisor.*

- What **professional** experiences have you had, that positively contribute to the urgent pursuit of this goal?

- What **personal** experiences have you had that positively contribute to the urgent pursuit of this goal?

- What **beliefs or fears** do you have that might get in the way of pursuing this goal?

- What will it take to let go of beliefs that no longer are helpful?

- What will you need to do to be reassured about your fears?

Given your experience in today's workshop, what are two or three things you willing to commit to doing right away to increase performance in your unit in this practice area?

1.

2.

3.

What will you need in order to be successful?