**CASE PLANNING FLOW CHART**

**THE CASEWORK PROCESS**

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<th>RELATIONSHIP</th>
<th>ASSESSMENT</th>
<th>GOALS/OBJECTIVES</th>
<th>INTERVENTION ACTIVITIES</th>
<th>IMPLEMENT</th>
<th>REASSESSMENT</th>
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<td>A collaborative relationship wherein the caseworker enables and supports a family’s efforts to make positive changes in behavior and life situation.</td>
<td>A mutual process of gathering pertinent data about family needs, problems, resources, and strengths. Data is used to identify causal and/or contributing factors to family problems and to formulate conclusions about why problems exist.</td>
<td>Goals and objectives are statements of desired outcomes. Goals are broad statements of direction. Objectives are concrete, measurable, observable ends designed to reach a goal and eliminate the assessed problems or meet identified needs.</td>
<td>The intervention plan lists the necessary steps and activities to achieve goals and objectives. The plan identifies who should perform the activities, where, how, and within what time frame.</td>
<td>Each component of the plan is reviewed to determine its current relevance and the success of interventions. Revisions are made as needed. Identification of needed changes prompts a return to the assessment stage, with resetting of goals and activities.</td>
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**CASEWORK IS DEPENDENT UPON THE EXISTENCE OF A RELATIONSHIP. THE FAMILY MUST BE ENGAGED.**

**ASSESSMENT PROVIDES RATIONALE FOR ALL CASE GOALS AND PLANS.**

**GOALS AND OBJECTIVES DESCRIBE WHAT SHOULD BE DONE.**

**GIVES DIRECTION TO CASEWORK ACTIVITIES. THE PLAN SHOULD BE AGREED UPON BY CASEWORKER AND FAMILY.**

**APPLICATIONS OF CASEWORK PROCESS TO CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES**

**ABUSE/NEGLIGENCE REFERRAL: CHILD SERVED AT HOME**

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<td>Worker engages parent into a cooperative relationship with agency to protect child and enable maintenance of child in own home. Caseworker uses strategies to develop trust and confidence of family. Worker defines agency as supportive, helpful, and concerned with keeping family together. Worker also clarifies authority and mandate to protect child if parent is unwilling to work jointly to solve problems.</td>
<td>Worker and family assess factors that have caused or contributed to risk or the development and perpetuation of maltreatment of the child, and strengths/resources to resolve problems. Includes personal, interpersonal and environmental problems/needs and resources/ strengths. Data should explain and validate why the child is at risk in the family.</td>
<td>GOALS: Maintain the child in his own home. Assure that he will be protected. OBJECTIVES: Includes statements of all necessary outcomes which will assure the child's safety within his own home and which will strengthen the family and promote change to eliminate abusive or neglectful caregiving.</td>
<td>Includes activities and services to achieve the goals and objectives. May include activities representative of these services: • Casework Support • Crisis Intervention • Counseling • Intensive Home-Based Interventions • Homemaker/Home Mgmt. • Parent Education • Protective Day Care • Referral to Community • Case Management • Casework Monitoring</td>
<td>Through formal case plan review, the following should be determined: • If goals have been met and child is safe at home without casework intervention. <strong>If yes, Close Case.</strong> • If family still needs agency intervention to assure protection of child. If yes, return to assessment phase and revise/update case plan. <strong>BE AWARE:</strong> If new or additional data indicates the child is at risk of harm at home and cannot be protected by agency intervention, consider placement in substitute care.</td>
<td>Each component of the plan is reviewed to determine its current relevance and the success of interventions. Revisions are made as needed. Identification of needed changes prompts a return to the assessment stage, with resetting of goals and activities.</td>
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**REASSESSMENT**

**RESOLUTION OF PROBLEMS RESULTS IN TERMINATION OF CASEWORK ACTIVITIES.**
CHILD CANNOT BE PROTECTED AT HOME

### RELATIONSHIP

Caseworker must:
- Clearly explain to parents why the child must be moved from the home;
- Reaffirm commitment to reunify family as soon as possible;
- Work through parents’ anger and other feelings generated by removal;
- Reinstall efforts to engage parents into cooperative relationship to enable return of child.

If the child is removed at intake, assessment is completed in a similar manner as noted above. If the child is removed despite prior services, most of the assessment should already have been conducted.

Additional assessment of critical risk factors may be necessary.

**GOALS/OBJECTIVES**

**GOALS:**
- Reunify parent and child
- Maintain parent/child relationship
- Meet child's special needs

**OBJECTIVES:**
All necessary outcomes to make the home safe for the child and to meet the child's special needs in preparation for reunification.

**INTERVENTION ACTIVITIES**
- Identified steps and activities to:
  1. Strengthen/empower family
  2. Establish regular visits with child, siblings, and parents
  3. Services to meet child's special needs
  4. Reunify child with family

**IMPLEMENT CASE PLAN**
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**REASSESSMENT**

Through case plan review, caseworker and family determine whether child can be safely returned and maintained at home. If yes, supervise at home, close case. If child can't be safely reunified, identify what else is needed to make the home safe. Return to assessment phase and revise/update all parts of plan.

If home cannot be made safe, consider permanent custody.

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REUNIFICATION WITH FAMILY NOT POSSIBLE: CHILD NEEDS PERMANENT HOME

### RELATIONSHIP

Caseworker notifies parent that permanent plan will be made for child which may include termination of parents' rights.

Caseworker strengthens relationship with child to provide support, stability, and guidance during permanent custody and placement activities.

Information will be gathered regarding:
- Child's history, behavior, needs, problems, and strengths, formalized in a psychosocial assessment.
- Child's placement needs; characteristics of family to meet physical, social, emotional, and any special needs.
- Available placements/homes
- Document additional data to justify permanent custody action.

**GOAL:** Child will be placed in permanent home. (Pref. Adoption)

**OBJECTIVES:**
- Obtain Permanent Custody
- Identify best placement resources for permanency
- Prepare child for placement
- Child placed in home
- Family and child receive follow-up services to maintain placement

**INTERVENTION ACTIVITIES**
- Identified steps and activities to:
  - Facilitate court activity toward pursuit of custody
  - Evaluate and identify the best home for the child.
  - Prepare and move the child into the new home.
  - Assist child and family in their adjustment.
  - Casework support, referral to community services, parent support groups, etc.

**IMPLEMENT CASE PLAN**
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**REASSESSMENT**

If child successfully placed in adoptive home and placement legally finalized, **CLOSE CASE.**

If placement is not appropriate or disrupts, try again. Determine why it didn't work, (return to assessment) and make necessary revisions in goals and plan activities.

**CONTINUE IN THIS MODE UNTIL PERMANENCE IS ACHIEVED.**

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