



Clark County Family Services

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Clark County Family Services Policy and Procedures

SUBJECT:

Protective Capacity Progress Assessment (PCPA)

| Effective Date | Amendment Number | Amendment Effective Date |
|----------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| April 17, 2019 | 2 | January 23, 2025 |

SCOPE:

The Protective Capacity Progress Assessment (PCPA) process is an intervention component which begins after a Case Plan is in effect and continues at a minimum every ninety (90) calendar days following Supervisor approval in UNITY of the Case Plan until the PCPA process is no longer required. The PCPA process tracks progress towards change and intervention success at scheduled intervals, resulting in conclusions regarding the case.

SPECIFIC LEGAL and OTHER REFERENCES:

- Children Missing from Care Policy and Procedures
- Children under Court Jurisdiction who turn Eighteen (18) Years Old Policy and Procedures
- Central Imaging Common Policy Element
- Confirming Safe Environments Instrument Policy and Procedures
- [DCFS Policy 0212 – Protective Capacity Progress Assessment Policy](#)
- [NAC 432B](#)
- [NRS 432B](#)

PROGRAMS IMPACTED:

- LifeSet
- Permanency

SUMMARY OF CHANGES:

Added requirement that proposed In-Home Safety Plans must be approved by a manager prior to implementation.

DEFINITIONS:

For a list of acronyms and a glossary of terms used throughout CCFS, refer to Acronyms and Glossary located on DFSNet.

Protective Capacity Progress Assessment (PCPA) Process:

An intervention component which begins after a Case Plan is in effect and continues at a minimum every ninety (90) calendar days following Supervisor approval in UNITY of the Case Plan until the PCPA process is no longer required. The PCPA process may occur at any time based on the judgment that progress measurement, Case Plan revisions, or Safety Plan revisions are needed. The PCPA process consists of information collection that occurs during any meaningful contact with caregivers, family members, treatment providers and safety service providers, analysis and measurement of progress toward achievement of Case Plan goals, and changes in behaviors and conditions.

FORMS, PUBLICATIONS, AND INSTRUCTIONAL DOCUMENTS:

- Permanency Services Case Management PCPA Manual (on DFSNet)
- Placement Change and/or Movement Form (in UNITY)

Staff must be aware of and follow policies and procedures relevant to their program area.

POLICY:

I. Protective Capacity Progress Assessment (PCPA)

- A. The Protective Capacity Progress Assessment (PCPA) process continues the assessment process where the Protective Capacity Family Assessment (PCFA) process ends, with the establishment of the Case Plan.
- B. The PCPA process consists of:
 - 1. Information collection that occurs during any meaningful contact with caregivers, family members, treatment service providers and safety service providers.
 - 2. Analysis and measurement of progress toward achievement of Case Plan goals.
 - 3. Monitoring changes in behaviors and conditions.
 - 4. The status of the Safety Plan.
 - 5. The status of the Conditions for Return (CFR).
- C. The PCPA process tracks progress toward change and intervention success at scheduled intervals. The PCPA process measures progress in Case Plan goal achievement (e.g. enhancement of diminished caregiver protective capacities, effectiveness of change oriented services and improvement in child well-being). The PCPA process is a time for Clark County Family Services (CCFS) to check in on the quality of the helping relationship between caregiver and CCFS and the degree to which specific behaviors and conditions are changing in the intended direction.
- D. There are four (4) main assessment issues that are covered in the PCPA process:
 - 1. The extent to which caregivers are making progress related to Case Plan goal achievement (e.g., the enhancement of diminished caregiver protective capacities).
 - 2. Safety management is paramount to the PCPA process. During the PCPA process, Permanency Specialists and Supervisors must reconfirm the sufficiency of Safety Plans. This involves determining the status of impending danger and completing a Safety Plan Determination (SPD) to ensure that the Safety Plan is the least intrusive and most appropriate. In cases where the Safety Plan is out-of-home placement (foster care or kinship), this means determining the status of CFR's, and whether it is possible to decrease the level of intrusiveness and reunify children with the implementation of an In-home Safety Plan.
 - 3. During the PCPA process, Permanency Specialists assess and determine the current status of the motivational readiness of caregivers to change and/or participate in change oriented services. The primary role of Permanency Specialists during intervention is to be facilitators of change. In order to be effective at facilitating change with caregivers, Permanency Specialists recognize the stage of change that caregivers are in at the point that a PCPA process is being completed.
 - 4. Child's unmet needs.
- E. A PCPA process may occur at any time based on the judgment that progress measurement, Case Plan revisions, or Safety Plan revisions are needed.
- F. The PCPA Event, at a minimum, is concluded within one hundred and twenty (120) calendar days from Supervisor approval of the Case Plan in UNITY and is conducted at a minimum of every ninety (90) calendar days until the PCPA Process is no longer required due to any of the following conditions: case closure, termination of parental rights or relinquishment, or reunification is neither the primary or concurrent permanency goal.
 - 1. A PCPA process may not be required if, during the time frame that the PCPA process is assessing, all caregivers' whereabouts are unknown or all caregivers are non-cooperative with case planning.
- G. Decisions to implement an In-Home Safety Plan and reunify children with the caregiver from whom they were removed require manager approval prior to the child returning home.

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Clark County Family Services

January 13, 2025

Approved Date