

Safe from the Start

*A Community Collaboration on the Co-Occurrence
of Child Maltreatment and Domestic Violence*

**Guidelines on the Co-Occurrence of
Domestic Violence and Child Maltreatment
10th Judicial District—Johnson County, Kansas**
January 2004

Vision Statement

*Johnson County is a community where people
live free from family violence.*

TABLE of CONTENTS

Forward	3
Guiding Principles	4
Cultural Competency	5
• Why Cultural Competence and Definitions	5
• Cultural Competence Recommendations	6
Screening Response Guidelines at Three Levels	7
• Screening Response Recommendations	8
• Level One: Guidelines for First Responders	9
- First Response Screening Tools	
• Level Two: Guidelines for Direct Service Professionals	11
- Direct Service Screening Tools	
• Level Three: Guidelines for Other Community Professionals	13
- Other Community Screening Tools	
Service Integration Strategies	15
• Family Court Coordination Plan	15
• Memorandum of Agreement between The Overland Park Area SRS Office and Safehome	16
• Safehome Membership on the Multidisciplinary Team	18
• Domestic Violence Response at JIAC	19
• Domestic Violence Response at Sunflower House	19
Training Plan	19
Batterers Intervention	21
Project Monitoring	
• Co-Occurrence Indicator Data to collect to monitor for co-occurrence trends.	23
Appendix	
A. Acknowledgements	25
B. Project Memorandum of Agreement	27
C. Definitions	28
D. Sources	30

Forward

In September 2001, the *Safe From the Start* project was convened with the first meeting of the dedicated professionals and community leaders that formed the project's Leadership Team. Over the next two years, this community collaboration sought to identify ways to improve the response to family violence in Johnson County. In particular, *Safe from the Start* leaders wanted to close the historic policy and practice barriers that in the past had resulted in the parallel systems of child welfare and domestic violence. In its place, the project sought to design new, integrated approaches to achieving safety for Johnson County families and children experiencing violence in their homes.

The publication of the *Guidelines on the Co-Occurrence of Domestic Violence and Child Maltreatment* represents both the culmination of the project and the beginning of implementing this new approach to family safety in Johnson County. We dedicate it to the many silent victims of child maltreatment and domestic violence in Johnson County and in communities across the nation.

Sincerely,

Safe from the Start Project Conveners

Judge Allen Slater
Johnson County Courthouse
10th Judicial District
913/715-3830
allen.slater@jocogov.org

Mary Cole
Chief of Social Services
KS Social & Rehabilitation Services
913/826-7462
mlc@srskansas.org

Sharon Katz
Executive Director
Safehome
913/432-9300, Ext. 15
skatz@safehome-ks.org

Rise Haneberg
Director of Court Services
10th Judicial District
913/324-6927
rise.haneberg@jocogov.org

Contact Information:
10th Judicial District Court Services
1255 E. 119th Street
Olathe, Kansas 66061

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Adopted by the Safe from the Start Leadership Team – June 14, 2002

The primary focus of the *Safe from the Start* project is to improve the response in Johnson County to the co-occurrence of domestic violence and child maltreatment. The leaders of this community's courts, public child protection services, community-based child welfare services and domestic violence services are committed to working together to identify and implement an effective response to the families that experience both domestic violence and child abuse. The goal is for all victims of abuse to achieve the outcomes of safety, stability and well-being (1st Source, Appendix D, pg.14) and to hold perpetrators accountable for their abusive behavior through the provision of services and /or sanctions. The community should identify, in a timely manner, families in need of services with the goal of returning families to safety.

Fundamental principles include that:

Safety: The highest priority is keeping victims safe. The community will strive to safely identify all the adult and child victims of family violence and then keep them safe from harm. If a family cannot be restored safely, the children affected by maltreatment and domestic violence will remain in the care of the non-offending parent whenever possible.

Information Sharing: Improving communication between family-serving systems is essential to improving the response to co-occurrence. Although the privacy and confidentiality of individuals will be respected and protected at all times as required by law, all suspected cases of child maltreatment will be reported to the appropriate authorities.

Child witnessing: Witnessing domestic violence is a traumatic experience for children. However, it does not automatically meet the definition of child in need of care. As a community, we will strive for a response that permits an adult or child victim of violence to receive help with or without the opening of a child protection case (1st Source, Appendix D, pg. 21). The system will develop a response that places the burden of responsibility on the abusive party. If it is clear that the child(ren) are not being protected, then further intervention will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

Co-occurrence service planning: Service planning by both child protection services and domestic violence services should identify the new and different responses required of their services to promote the safety, stability and well-being of all victims of family violence (1st Source, Appendix D, pgs. 62, 80). For domestic violence services, service planning should further their internal capacity to respond to the safety and support needs of families with children, especially those where child maltreatment co-occurs. For child protection services, service planning should include providing advocacy services for adult victims within the child protection system, including securing safe housing in either the adult and child victim's own residence, with family or friends, in a safe stable environment such as a shelter, or in transitional or permanent housing (1st Source, Appendix D, pg. 81).

Perpetrators: Interventions with perpetrators of domestic violence should hold perpetrators accountable for stopping violent and threatening behavior, and address the safety and well being of both child and adult victims (1st Source, Appendix D, pg. 86). We recognize that abuse is a complex system of coercive power and control and that is not necessarily represented by a single

act of illegal violence; therefore further assessment is necessary. The criminal justice and child protection systems and community-based family violence services must improve identification, intervention and coordination to reduce risks to adult and child victims, and effectively monitor the abuser's accountability and rehabilitation (1st Source, Appendix D, pgs. 87-88).

Cultural Competency: Service providers will develop new knowledge and practice skills to competently serve families from diverse backgrounds (1st Source, Appendix D, pg. 35).

CULTURAL COMPETENCY

Culture defines how each person understands and experiences the world. As a result, *Safe from the Start* project members recognize that culture in all its attributes intersects with family violence in unique and fundamental ways. To be successful in the project vision that “Johnson County is a community where people live free from family violence,” we must strive to embrace principles of cultural competence.

Why Cultural Competence?

Safe from the Start project members recognize that cultural competence is a process, not an outcome. (2nd Source, Appendix D) With this section, we seek to initiate a course of action to promote cultural competence in the Johnson County community for the following reasons.

- To ensure that the applicable legal standards of this community are correctly understood – not misunderstood or abandoned.
- To avoid the mistakes that result from basing assumptions on the customs, attitudes and behaviors of the prevalent culture.
- And most importantly, to improve safety and outcomes for the people we serve.

Culture Defined

“Culture defines us as individuals....Culture is the thoughts, ideas, behavior patterns, customs, values, skills, language, arts and faith or religion of a particular people at a given point in time.... Everyone has culture which influences how each of us sees others.” (3rd Source, Appendix D) This definition of culture from the Child Welfare League of America is a reminder that ‘culture’ influences and interacts in each of us in multifaceted ways, as individuals, as professionals within organizations that have specific histories and purposes, and as communities comprised of many values and traditions.

Cultural Competence Defined

The *Safe from the Start* project adapted the following definition of cultural competence from the Child Welfare League of America: (3rd Source, Appendix D)

Cultural competence is:

- The ability of individuals and systems to respond respectfully and effectively to people of all cultures, classes, races, ethnic backgrounds, sexual orientations, and faiths or religions in a manner that recognizes, affirms, and values the worth of individuals, families, and communities, and protects and preserves the dignity of each.
- Continuous learning about the cultures of others different from ourselves and integration of that knowledge into our lives as professionals and as family and child-serving systems.
- The knowledge, ability and skill to identify and address issues with cultural implications that challenge family and child-serving organizations and systems.

Cultural Competence Project Recommendations:

Organizational Leadership and Training

Safe from the Start participating organizations will:

1. Make a commitment to identify the racially, ethnically, culturally and linguistically diverse groups in Johnson County and then develop greater understanding of those cultures, especially as related to the issues and values related to family violence.
2. Conduct an organizational cultural competence self-assessment by seeking input from staff, consumers and relevant community groups to develop a plan to improve organizational competence.
3. Support the professional development of their employees in the area of cultural competency. Organizations are encouraged to identify annual training opportunities to enhance employees' skills and understanding of diverse cultures, especially on areas related to family violence.

Clients with limited English proficiency

Safe from the Start recognizes the significant efforts of the 10th Judicial District to make interpreters available to court involved families. To further advance work with clients who have limited English proficiency, *Safe from the Start* participating agencies will:

4. Seek to not utilize underage children as interpreters and, whenever possible, will not rely on any relative or same-household member for language interpretation.
5. Make all reasonable efforts to have printed materials available in languages other than English. In particular, materials that explain U.S. law, the legal process and the rights of persons in the court system should be available. Court-involved families in Johnson County need more access to materials that are clear and readily understandable. In addition, whenever possible, interpreters should be available to explain materials in recognition that literacy is an issue for some court-involved families. A hope for the future is that victim sessions can be offered in other languages or through interpreters at the courthouse.

Immigration Status

The *Safe from the Start* project members want to acknowledge that “immigrant women are not only particularly vulnerable to domestic partner abuse, but also less likely to seek assistance.”(4th Source, Appendix D)

Safe from the Start participating organizations:

6. Recognize that adoption of these guidelines by participating agencies will not override existing agency policies on identification and reporting of undocumented residents.
7. Urge professionals responding to or providing services for situations of co-occurrence to bear in mind that client service is paramount to providing for the safety for all family members affected by violence, regardless of immigration status.
8. Suggest that, unless required by agency policy, professionals and agencies involved in the identification of co-occurrence and subsequent client services will not require a social security number from clients.
9. Recommend that family violence service organizations educate themselves on recent immigration law. New immigration laws were passed in the early 1990’s because, previously, the immigration process tended to worsen the problems of immigrants experiencing domestic violence. Among others, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) changes the immigration process for battered immigrants and their children who have not yet received permanent residency. This body of law holds implications for current service advocacy strategies so that the immigration rights of battered or abused immigrants and their children are preserved. (4th Source, Appendix D)

SCREENING RESPONSE GUIDELINES

“To make safety and stability a more meaningful possibility for families requires community institutions and their leaders to take more active responsibility for family safety.”(1st Source, Appendix D, pg.17)

The *Safe from the Start* project seeks to increase the capacity of community institutions to screen for family violence with the goal to get meaningful help to families and children earlier. Screening guidelines were developed for three different levels of community-based professionals who might find themselves in a position to identify and respond to the co-occurrence of child abuse and neglect and domestic violence. The three levels include: First Responders, Direct Service Professionals and Other Community Professionals.

Screening Tools: In particular, the Safe from the Start project created screening tools that were designed to be user-friendly by professionals in identifying co-occurrence. *Safe From the Start* encourages the active utilization of these screening tools, which include questions for both potential child and adult victims of violence. If co-occurrence is identified, procedures to promote safety are included in the guidelines.

Screening Response Recommendations:

In order to promote greater safety and stability for families experiencing violence, *Safe from the Start* recommends that community institutions across the spectrum screen earlier for family violence. Organizations at the levels of First Responders, Direct Service Professionals and Other Community Professionals are encouraged to:

1. Use these guidelines to screen for family violence and its affect on safety for all family members, recognizing that not only the presenting victim, but also other adult or child victims may need to be protected from harm.
2. Make regular use of the screening tools created for adult caregivers and children. These tools were designed to be user-friendly by professionals in identifying co-occurrence with both potential child and adult victims of violence.
3. Implement the safety procedures recommended in the guidelines with the intent to increase the capacity of this community to develop the differential, collaborative responses that will lead to greater safety for all members of the families experiencing domestic violence and child maltreatment.
4. Incorporate the new collaborative referral design suggested at all three levels to enhance this community's capacity to intervene more effectively and earlier with families experiencing domestic violence and/or child maltreatment, including:
 - For adult-related concerns: Safely, but actively refer adult victims and/or caregivers to the Safehome domestic violence hotline at 913/262-2868.
 - For child-related concerns: In order to expedite services to children and families, suspected child abuse or other child safety concerns are to be reported to the SRS local hotline at 913/826-7321 or SRS's state hotline at 1-800-922-5330. SRS will review reports to properly assess the risk to the children. This screening service by SRS does not mean that a case will be opened to investigate child maltreatment. SRS's current policy affirms a fundamental principle of responding to co-occurrence, namely that children will remain in the care of the non-offending parent whenever possible, and that child witnessing of domestic violence does not automatically meet the definition of child in need of care. SRS will determine if additional investigation is warranted and/or make referrals to other services that assist families in crisis. Law enforcement is encouraged to concurrently forward adult domestic violence criminal reports where children are present in the home to the local SRS intake FAX at 913/826-7482.

Level One: First Responders

First Responders: Professionals, including law enforcement and other emergency personnel, who are called to provide immediate, appropriate interventions in an emergency/acute stage of co-occurrence.

Scenario: First response professional has responded to an “emergency” situation, where domestic violence and/or child abuse is suspected. Responder must assess immediate safety issues, and will attempt to identify the possibility of co-occurrence of child maltreatment and domestic violence.

Guidelines for First Responders

I. Assess the safety of all individuals present.

- A. Identify all persons present in the home.
- B. Record Name, Age & Gender of each child present in the home.
- C. Ask to see all children present in the home to assess their immediate well being.

II. Use the appropriate Screening Tool.

The following are suggested questions to screen for co-occurrence. These questions may be used at the discretion of the responding professionals.

Create the setting to interview the Child and/or Adult Caregiver

- Interview the child or adult alone, not within sight or sound of other family members.
- Determine if the child or adult caregiver has experienced violence in the home.

First Response Screening Tools

SUGGESTED QUESTIONS FOR ADULT CAREGIVER	
A ffraid: Ask if adult is afraid of partner.	<i>Have you ever felt afraid of your partner?</i>
D anger: Ask about danger to family members.	<i>Has your partner ever hurt or threatened you or your children?</i>
U nderage: Ask about underage children.	<i>What do your children do when your partner becomes aggressive?</i>
L aw Enforcement: Ask about previous police contact.	<i>Have police ever been called to your house because of a fight?</i>
T onight: Ask about safety for tonight	<i>Do you feel safe to stay in the house tonight?</i>
Safehome Hotline (913) 262-2868 or 911	

SUGGESTED QUESTIONS FOR CHILDREN	
C ircumstances: Ask about incident circumstances.	<i>What happened before we got here?</i>
H ow: Ask how fights occur in child's home.	<i>Tell me about how (mom and dad) fight.</i>
I njury: Ask about injury to family members.	<i>Does anyone get hurt when (mom and dad) fight?</i>
L iving in Home: Ask about behavior of those in home	<i>Has anyone in your home ever hurt or threatened you, or anyone in your family?</i>
D estination: Ask about safe destination for tonight.	<i>Do you feel safe to stay (with mom, with mom and dad) tonight?</i>
SAFETY PLAN FOR CHILDREN	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Stay out of any fights. ➤ Get to a Safe Place (friend, neighbor, relative). ➤ Call 911 and ask for help. ➤ Don't get trapped in a small room or closet. 	
Child Abuse Hotline (913) 826-7321-SRS Local Intake or 911	

III. Implement safety procedures.

- A. Law enforcement officer (LEO) will review safety plan(s) with the child and adult victims.
- B. LEO will provide adult caregiver referral information for services in the community and Protection from Abuse (PFA) orders. Referral services may include Safehome shelter, outreach counseling, Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services (SRS), mental health, the Juvenile Intake and Assessment Center (JIAC), etc.

Child in Need of Care

- C. Based on safety assessment, LEO will follow current protocols/procedures for child(ren) in need of care. *LEO may use the option to transport child to JIAC for further assessment and referrals. The child may be accompanied by the adult victim.*
- D. The District Attorney assigned to the Child in Need of Care section currently reviews adult domestic violence criminal police reports when child witnessing occurred.
- E. In order to expedite services to children and families, LEO's are also encouraged to forward reports that indicate that children were present in the home to the local SRS office for concurrent review by SRS and the District Attorney's office. SRS

will review reports to properly assess the risk to the children. This screening service by SRS does not mean that a case will be opened to investigate child maltreatment. *Rather, SRS's current policy affirms a fundamental principle of responding to co-occurrence, namely that children will remain in the care of the non-offending parent whenever possible. In addition, SRS also affirms that child witnessing of domestic violence does not automatically meet the definition of child abuse.* SRS will determine if additional investigation is warranted and/or make referrals to other services that assist families in crisis. **LEO's should fax adult domestic violence criminal reports where children are present in the home to the local SRS Intake FAX - (913) 826-7482.**

IV. Domestic Violence Protocol

- A. When domestic violence is identified, LEO will follow current protocol for criminal domestic violence cases.
- B. LEO should notify adult victims of the victim session the following day at the Courthouse, available to victims regardless of perpetrator's arrest. *If victim needs additional language services, LEO should note this on reports sent to District Attorney's office and SRS.*

Level Two: Direct Service Professionals

Direct Service Professionals: Practitioners such as Social and Rehabilitation Services (SRS) caseworkers, domestic violence advocates, court personnel, and other providers, including CASA, Sunflower House and mental health professionals. These professionals provide direct services to adults and children in areas related to domestic violence and child abuse and neglect. The recommended interventions are based on a situation where co-occurrence is suspected or identified, but not in an acute or emergency stage.

Scenario: Professional is working with family through a family assessment, counseling session or other intervention where families may be at-risk of domestic violence or child abuse and neglect. Professional must assess safety issues and will attempt to identify the possibility of co-occurrence of child abuse and neglect and domestic violence.

Guidelines for Direct Service Professionals

I. Assess the safety of all family members.

II. Use the appropriate Screening Tools.

The purpose of the Screening Tool is to identify the possibility of violence in the home and to make the appropriate community referrals.

Specific criteria for using the Child Screening Tool: If a Direct Service Professional suspects child abuse or neglect, he/she will refer directly to SRS Intake to comply with state mandated reporting laws. Every effort should be made to minimize the potential for multiple, duplicative interviews of children. Multiple interviews are associated with increased trauma to child victims.

SRS will determine on a case-by-case basis if additional investigation is warranted or referrals to other community services made.

Create the setting to interview the Child &/or Adult Caregiver

- Interview the child or adult alone, not within sight or sound of other family members.
- Determine if the child or adult caregiver has experienced violence in the home.

Direct Service Screening Tools

SUGGESTED QUESTIONS FOR ADULT CAREGIVER
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Have you ever felt afraid of your partner? 2. Have the police ever been called to your house because of a fight? 3. Has your partner ever hurt or threatened you or your children? 4. Have you ever needed to protect your children during a fight? 5. Has your child ever tried to protect you during a fight? 6. Has your partner ever been arrested for any violent crimes? 7. Does your partner possess a gun or weapon? 8. Do you feel safe to stay in the house tonight?
SAFETY PLAN FOR ADULTS:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay in a safe place (relative, friend or shelter). • Gather all important documents, clothes, medicine, money & extra keys. Store these someplace easily accessible. • Keep a cellular phone with you at all times. • Get a Protection from Abuse Order
Safehome Hotline (913) 262-2868 or 911

SUGGESTED QUESTIONS FOR CHILDREN
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What happened? 2. Tell me about how (mom and dad) fight. 3. Have you ever seen (mom and dad) fight? 4. Does anyone get hurt when (mom and dad) fight? 5. Has anyone in your home ever hurt or threatened you or another family member? 6. Do you feel safe to stay (with mom, with mom and dad) tonight?
SAFETY PLAN FOR CHILDREN
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay out of any fights. • Find a Safe Place (friend, neighbor, relative). Call 911 and ask for help. • Don't get trapped in a small room or closet.
Child Abuse Hotline (913) 826-7321-SRS Local Intake or 911

Implement safety procedures.

A. Professional will review safety plan(s) with the child and/or adult victims.

B. For child-related concerns: If the Professional suspects child abuse or neglect, he/she is encouraged to report to child protective services at SRS in order to expedite services to children and their families. If the Professional is a mandated reporter, he/she must report and is expected to adhere to applicable reporting laws in cases of suspected child abuse and neglect. SRS will review reports to properly assess the risk to the children. Reporting to SRS does not mean that a case will be opened to investigate child maltreatment. *Rather, SRS's current policy affirms a fundamental principle of responding to co-occurrence, namely that children will remain in the care of the non-offending parent whenever possible. In addition, SRS also affirms that child witnessing of domestic violence does not automatically meet the definition of child abuse.* SRS will determine if additional investigation is warranted, and/or make referrals to other services that assist families in crisis.

Johnson County SRS Intake Hotline: (913) 826-7321

If *immediate* danger is suspected, the professional should contact local law enforcement.

C. For adult-related concerns: Professional will provide referral information for services in the community and encourage the adult victim to call the local domestic violence hotline. Referred services may include Safehome outreach counseling &/or shelter, SRS, mental health, etc.

Safehome Hotline: (913) 262-2868

Level Three: Other Community Professionals

Other Community Professionals are those persons in the community who are not direct service practitioners in the areas of domestic violence and/or child maltreatment, but who are in a position to identify co-occurrence and to make appropriate referrals. Examples of indirect service professionals include school personnel, early childhood providers, faith leaders, etc.

Scenario: Professional observes or identifies “red flags” and denotes possibility of co-occurrence. Behavioral or physical signs of either child abuse or domestic violence may indicate this possibility.

Role of Other Community Professionals

Safe From the Start values the importance of the Community Professional in identifying potential victims of domestic violence and/or child abuse and neglect. The purpose of the Community Professional’s intervention is to identify, and quickly refer, possible child abuse and neglect and/or domestic violence to the appropriate helping agencies and authorities.

Guidelines for Other Community Professionals

I. Assess the safety of all family members.

II. Use the appropriate Screening Tool

The purpose of the Screening Tool is to identify the possibility of violence in the home and to make community referrals. If a Community Professional suspects child abuse or neglect, he/she may refer directly to SRS Intake &/or Law Enforcement to comply with state mandated reporting laws. Every effort should be made to minimize the potential for multiple, duplicative interviews of children. Multiple interviews are associated with increased trauma to child victims. SRS will review reports on a case-by-case basis and determine if additional investigation or referrals to other community services are warranted.

Guidelines for interviewing the Child &/or Adult Caregiver

- Interview the child or adult alone, not within sight or sound of other family members.
- Determine if the child or adult caregiver has experienced violence in the home.

Other Community Screening Tools

SUGGESTED QUESTIONS FOR ADULT CAREGIVER
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Have you ever felt afraid of your partner?2. Has your partner ever threatened you or your children?3. What do your children do when your partner becomes aggressive?4. Do you feel safe to stay in your house?
SAFETY PLAN FOR ADULTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stay in a safe place (relative, friend or shelter).• Gather important documents, clothes, medicine, money & extra keys. Store these someplace easily accessible.• Keep a cellular phone with you at all times.• Get a Protection from Abuse Order
Safehome Hotline (913) 262-2868 or 911

SUGGESTED QUESTIONS FOR CHILDREN
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Tell me about how (mom and dad) fight.2. Does anyone get hurt when (mom and dad) fight?3. Has anyone in your home ever hurt or threatened you or anyone in your family?4. Do you feel safe to stay (with mom, with mom and dad)?
SAFETY PLAN FOR CHILDREN
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stay out of any fights.• Get to a Safe Place (friend, neighbor, relative). Call 911 and ask for help.• Don't get trapped in a small room or closet.
Child Abuse Hotline (913) 826-7321-SRS Local Intake or 911

III. Implement safety procedures.

A. Community Professional will review safety plan(s) with the child and/or adult victims.

B. For child-related concerns: If a Community Professional suspects child abuse or neglect, he/she is encouraged to report to child protective services at SRS in order to expedite services to children and their families. If the Professional is a mandated reporter, he/she must report and is expected to adhere to applicable reporting laws in cases of suspected child abuse and neglect. SRS will review reports to properly assess the risk to the children. Reporting to SRS does not mean that a case will be opened to investigate child maltreatment. *Rather, SRS's current policy affirms a fundamental principle of responding to co-occurrence, namely that children will remain in the care of the non-offending parent whenever possible. In addition, SRS also affirms that child witnessing of domestic violence does not automatically meet the definition of child abuse.* SRS will determine if additional investigation is warranted, and/or make referrals to other services that assist families in crisis.

Johnson County SRS Intake Hotline: (913) 826-7321

If *immediate* danger is suspected, the professional should contact local law enforcement.

C. For adult-related concerns: Community Professionals will provide referral information for services in the community and encourage the adult victim to call the local domestic violence hotline. Referred services may include Safehome outreach counseling and/or shelter, SRS, mental health, etc.

Safehome Hotline: (913) 262-2868

SERVICE INTEGRATION STRATEGIES

The *Safe from the Start* project seeks to increase the capacity of this community to develop new collaborative and differential responses that will lead to greater safety for families experiencing domestic violence and child maltreatment. To more effectively address co-occurrence, *Safe from the Start* project members sought to identify new and multiple entry points into the Johnson County community's service system for victims of co-occurrence in order to enhance the possibility of safety and stability for families experiencing domestic violence and child maltreatment.

I. Family Court Coordination Plan

The following plan was developed to provide coordination when one family might have multiple cases pending in various courts. Steps to improve coordination include:

1. Monthly print-out by JIMS that identifies all "intersection cases" where various members of one family are involved in multiple courts.

2. Court Services will hold an internal staffing conference to identify a “lead case coordinator.” Responsibilities of the lead case coordinator include:
 - Review all active orders for all identified family members to insure consistency.
 - Communicate to all case workers assigned to the family about any activity that requires coordination. This can be done by setting up an email distribution list for all case workers. Examples of where coordination would be valuable include the lifting of a no contact order, completion of batterers’ intervention, notice of police contact with the family, etc. SRS and CASA workers would be included in this communication plan.
 - A court report will be prepared by the lead case coordinator for any hearing in the designated courts. An example of an item that might be included in such a ‘court report’ would be a probation status report for the civil judge determining custody. If so desired, courts could choose to defer decisions to other courts or decide to consolidate cases.
3. Emphasis would be placed on developing a “family” case plan. All case workers would work in collaboration to address the needs of the entire family and not work in a vacuum. For example, increased use of family-oriented intervention could be used and more sensitivity to the family needs considered, such as the economic and time pressures placed on families when multiple family members are in counseling or attending court-ordered groups at the same time.

Courts to be included in the Family Court Coordination Plan:

Juvenile Offender

Juvenile CINC

Civil Divorce

Criminal Domestic Violence

**II. Memorandum of Agreement between
The Overland Park Area SRS Office and Safehome**

The following memorandum of agreement was developed between the Overland Park Area SRS Office and Safehome. Other interagency agreements are being explored.

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
between
The Overland Park Area SRS Office
and
Safehome

Purpose: The purpose of this agreement is to more effectively serve families where both domestic violence and child abuse/neglect occur through improved communication, a better understanding of each other's roles, and clarification of expectations.

Identification:

Safehome - A children's survey is completed during the initial advocacy meeting that is held during the first two days of stay at Safehome. In the outreach program, the survey will be included in the paperwork that the adult victim fills out when she first attends the center. This survey asks questions about where children are living and whether they are in the custody of SRS. Safehome will add a question to their intake at the shelter and ask if the resident has worked with SRS. If the resident indicates that they have been involved with SRS, information about who their social worker is and whether the case is currently open will be sought.

SRS: The initial intake may include information or red flags about domestic violence, and intake workers are trained to follow up with clarifying questions if the issue is raised. They will also find out if any police reports have been filed and request copies of them as necessary.

Once a report is assigned, the social worker asks questions about domestic violence and Safehome involvement during the family assessment during one-on-one interviews. Social workers are not always able to interview the adult care givers alone, and should follow up with a telephone call that provides more privacy in asking certain questions.

Contractors of SRS will be asked to inquire about domestic violence as a part of the assessment they complete once a case is referred to them. Safehome staff have been appointed as members of the Multidisciplinary Team. They will be a resource for information regarding domestic violence issues on those cases that are staffed.

Referrals:

Safehome: Direct service staff at Safehome are mandated to report child abuse/neglect to SRS or local law enforcement. They ask the mother to call and make the report and will sit with her while she does so. If the mother is the alleged perpetrator, Safehome staff makes the report.

SRS: Social workers give information about Safehome to adult victims. A special brochure may need to be developed for these situations.

In Cases of Co-occurrence, Procedure for Working Together:

(An assumption is that SRS and Safehome have to continue to work within their own respective policies and procedures.)

If Safehome discovers that a resident has a case open at SRS, they will encourage her to contact her social worker to inform the worker of her location, assuring her that the information will be kept confidential. Safehome staff will offer to attend sessions with the resident or talk with the social worker if they have a signed release of information. Safehome staff will only share information when they have permission to do so FOR EACH SPECIFIC CONTACT and when the resident has been fully informed. Safehome cannot reveal the location of a client without her permission.

If, during the course of an investigation, an SRS worker has information that a client is at Safehome, they will call the shelter to leave a message for the client. (Safehome will not be able to affirm or deny that the resident is present.) The resident will be encouraged to contact SRS, and the social worker agrees to keep her location confidential. SRS social workers agree to have separate meetings with parents if the resident or Safehome staff indicate that there is a domestic violence situation. If a Safehome staff member is invited by the resident to attend a session with her, they will be welcome to do so by SRS social workers.

When a child is in SRS custody and placed with the mother, Safehome will be considered a viable option for residence. There will be a safety plan in place that includes an agreement on the part of the mother that she will remain at Safehome and complete their program. Safehome staff cannot inform SRS if the mother and child leave unless there is consent from the mother to do so, or the situation requires a report of alleged child abuse/neglect. Safehome staff will inform the mother of possible consequences of leaving the facility (i.e., charges of interference in State's custody, placement of the child in a foster home) if they have an opportunity.

_____/S/_____
Lorrie Bezinque, Acting Area Director
Overland Park Area SRS Office

_____/S/_____
Sharon Katz, Executive Director
Safehome

November 15, 2003
Date

November 15, 2003
Date

III. Safehome Membership on Multidisciplinary Team

Safehome staff will be appointed as members of the Multidisciplinary Team. Safehome staff will serve as a resource for information on domestic violence issues for those cases that are staffed by the Team.

IV. Domestic Violence Response at JIAC

Law enforcement may choose to transport a child, accompanied by the adult victim, to JIAC for further assessment and referrals (see Safety Procedures for Level One Responders). JIAC staff will be trained to use the Direct Service Professional screening response guidelines, which include encouraging potential adult victims to call the local domestic violence hotline. In addition, on a trial basis, Safehome will make staff or trained volunteers available to be called to come to JIAC to work with the adult domestic violence victim.

V. Domestic Violence Response at Sunflower House

Sunflower House staff, through their daily interaction with families, may come into contact with adult caregivers who are also victims of domestic violence. Sunflower House staff will be trained to use the Direct Service Professional screening response guidelines, which include encouraging potential adult victims to call the local domestic violence hotline. In addition, Safehome will make staff available to be called to come to Sunflower House to work with the adult domestic violence victim.

TRAINING PLAN

The Training Plan was created for the three levels of intervention previously described: First Responders, Direct Service Professionals and Other Community Professionals.

First Responders (Law Enforcement Officers)

I. Content

- A. Co-Occurrence Defined
 - What is co-occurrence? (definition) What is the prevalence? (brief overview of local statistics) And, how can it be identified? (review of the “red flags”/indicators of co-occurrence)
- B. SFTS Screening Guidelines and Service Integration Strategies
 - Step-by-step procedural training when called to provide immediate interventions in an emergency/acute stage of co-occurrence.
- C. Screening Tools for First Responders (ADULT and CHILD tools)
 - Review of questions and dissemination of cards
 - Brief review of how to use (private setting, questioning children, etc.)
 - Sharing reports with Social and Rehabilitation Services Intake, including explanation of co-occurrence philosophy, namely that all victims in the family should be able to gain access to help, regardless of whether or not a child protection case is opened. Faxing adult criminal domestic violence reports to SRS is designed to enhance this community’s capacity to intervene more effectively and earlier with families experiencing co-occurrence, i.e. domestic violence and/or child maltreatment.

II. Format

- Video presentation to show at patrol shifts (15-20 minutes).
- Video incorporated into the domestic violence training for law enforcement departments conducted every two years. It is recommended that a speaker be on-hand to introduce the video and answer questions.
- Video incorporated into law enforcement training academy. It is recommended that a speaker be on-hand to introduce the video and answer questions.

Direct Service Professionals

I. Content

- A. Overview of *Safe from the Start*
 - Guiding Principles
 - Brief definitions & statistics of co-occurrence
- B. Cross-training: Domestic Violence, Child Abuse and Court System Overviews
 - Break out sessions for professionals to receive training outside their area of specialty
- C. SFTS Screening Guidelines and Service Integration Strategies
 - Review memorandum of agreement between Safehome and SRS
 - Review & implementation of Screening Tool for Direct Service Professionals
- D. Understanding the Systems
 - Case flow
 - Roles of and services provided by “key” agencies
 - Referral methods/criteria
 - Brief review of how to use (private setting, questioning children, etc.)

II. Format

- Semi-annual large audience training to bring together staff from direct service agencies.
- Add video of role-play of the screening tool in use.

Community Professionals

I. Content and Format

Training for Community Professionals will be conducted by incorporating the *Safe from the Start* guidelines, such as the screening tools, into the existing training currently provided by collaborating agencies. The focus of the training should be to encourage community professionals to ask the four brief questions listed in their screening tool, and to a) refer adult victims to services, and/or b) report concerns about children or suspected child abuse to SRS. Examples of existing training include:

- COMVAC Faith Committee will include SFTS training into their existing educational outreach.
- Sunflower House will incorporate SFTS training into their existing child abuse training for mandated reporters (school personnel & early childhood professionals).
- Safehome will incorporate SFTS training into their various community education programs for community professionals.

- SRS community outreach will include SFTS concepts.
- Court Services will ask the court monitor provider to train court-approved providers on SFTS tools.

Training Recommendations:

Safe from the Start recognizes that a fundamental step in implementing these guidelines will be staff training on the guidelines and follow-up to make sure that the training is put into practice. Participating organizations will be encouraged to:

1. Incorporate *Safe from the Start* training into their new employee orientation/training for all “front-line” staff.
2. Participate in an annual review of how SFTS partners incorporated SFTS training into their existing programs. Participating organizations are encouraged to provide SFTS training and guidelines updates to the internal and external training providers that they use.
3. Identify agencies that provide training to community professionals on an on-going basis and encourage them to incorporate SFTS into their programs to sensitize and educate the broader community about co-occurrence.

Training Recommendations: Implementation Action Steps:

To advance the on-going training on implementing these guidelines, the following action steps are recommended to COMVAC:

- o Secure funding and production staff to produce professional-quality video. Initial discussion included a video with combination of speaker, PowerPoint and role-play of an example of screening tool implementation.
- o Research existing training curricula and training formats on co-occurrence from other communities.
- o Collaborating agencies should be invited annually review how they incorporated SFTS training into their existing programs and to evaluate whether or not the training was implemented. Updates to the training curricula should be created by incorporating feedback from this annual review.

BATTERERS INTERVENTION

Holding perpetrators accountable for their behavior is one of the Guiding Principles set forth by the *Safe From the Start* Project. Batterer’s Intervention has been a required component of the probation orders for batterers in the 10th Judicial District since the inception of the Domestic Violence Court in 1996. The following recommendations reflect both a review of and suggestions for ways to strengthen current practice.

Batterers Intervention Recommendations:

1. The court will continue to hold batterers responsible through the assignment of batterers to the appropriate level of treatment intervention. Implemented in the fall of 2003, the judges of the 10th Judicial Court Domestic Violence Court incorporated into their

probation orders the option for the offender to “obtain a Domestic Violence Assessment and follow the recommendations of such an assessment.” The result will be offenders more appropriately assigned to the most suitable level of intervention. Thus, “low level” offenders may be placed in Anger Management classes and “high level” offenders would be assigned to Batterer Intervention classes, which would ultimately also incorporate a parenting component into the curriculum.

2. Increase and enhance communication between batterer intervention providers and probation staff, including by:
 - a. Ensuring that all providers receive a copy of the affidavit - legal statement of the charging incident.
 - b. Conducting once a year, a cross training/information sharing session for intervention providers and probation staff.
3. Conduct cross training with employees associated with the Domestic Violence Court that includes information regarding various court order options, such as:
 - a. Anger management
 - b. Batterer Intervention
 - c. Victim services
 - d. Protection from Abuse orders (PFA’s), Protection from Stalking orders (PSA’s) and No Contact orders
4. Incorporate parenting information into Batterer Intervention curriculum for all offenders who have parenting roles/responsibilities. These curricula should follow the guidelines set forth by Bancroft and Silverman in The Batterer As Parent (2002). Specific steps related to children and parenting include the following:
 - a. Batterer Intervention providers need to expand their level of attention to children’s issues and incorporate that awareness into all of their counseling, collateral work and policies.
 - b. The curriculum of the batterer’s intervention programming should include education on appropriate parenting, cover the distinction between permissive and authoritative styles, education on the effects of child exposure to domestic violence, identification and confrontation of behaviors that undermine the mother’s (adult victim’s) parenting authority, identification and confrontation of behaviors that involve using the children as weapons against the mother and education on the effects of child sexual abuse and the proper respecting of children’s boundaries.
 - c. Batterer programs need to develop linkages to programs for children exposed to domestic violence, to therapists who work with children and to other individuals and agencies providing group, individual, or advocacy services to children.
 - d. Batterer programs should be prepared to advocate for the protective needs of children with child protection services and family courts including custody evaluators.

PROJECT MONITORING

Co-Occurrence Indicator Data

Indicator Data Recommendation: *Safe from the Start* recommends that the following set of key indicators be collected on a calendar year basis starting in 2004 to monitor trends related to the co-occurrence of domestic violence and child maltreatment. The data is to be submitted to and maintained by the Justice Information Management System (JIMS).

<i>Existing Data</i>	Source	Indicator Description
	District Attorney's Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of Domestic Violence case filings - Number of cases staffed by Domestic Violence advocate. - Number of staffed cases with children present. - Number of staffed cases with alcohol involvement. - Number of Domestic Violence homicides. - Number of Children in Need of Care case filings.
	Juvenile Intake & Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CINC & JO intake reports for those who self-reported violence in the home.
	Safehome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Referrals to Safehome by source [Examples include JIAC, Sunflower House, SRS, etc.] - Survey with shelter parents on their children, including "existence of a Child Protection Case," "removed from the home," "parental rights severed."
	Social & Rehabilitation Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of CINC reports - Number of Reports Assigned for Investigation - Substantiated Victims - Number of substantiated child abuse victims where the caregiver reported either "ever been a perpetrator of spouse or partner abuse" or "ever been a victim of spouse or partner abuse."

	Court Services	- Data on batterers accountability, including number of completed court ordered intervention services and recidivism history
<i>New Data – to be developed</i>		
	Safehome	- Track Child Protective Services reports to SRS for both shelter and outreach program clients. - Track child case records to document histories of sexual or physical abuse.
	Social & Rehabilitation Services	- Add “Domestic Violence provider” to the list of referral sources.
	Sunflower House	- Investigate effective ways to identify the presence of domestic violence in the home and track known domestic violence cases. - Track referrals of adult caregivers to Safehome for domestic violence services.
	10 th Judicial District	- Identify intersection cases for overlap of Domestic Violence and Child in Need of Care. - Identify intersection cases for overlap of Domestic Violence cases with Child Custody and/or Divorce.

Appendix A.

Acknowledgements

Safe from the Start Leadership Team

Barbara Ballentine
Midwest WholeChild
Development Group

Sandra Barnett
KS Coalition Against Sexual &
Domestic Violence

Judge John Bennett
Johnson County Courthouse

Yolanda Bustamante
Community Volunteer

Chief Kevin Cavanaugh
Fairway Police Department

Mary Cole
KS Social & Rehabilitation Services

Bob Drummond
TLC for Children & Families

Erica Froetschner
Johnson County
District Attorney's Office

Georgia Grant
Community Volunteer

Henry Gueary
Olathe NAACP

Rise Haneberg
Court Services
10th Judicial District

Don Hymer
Johnson County
District Attorney's Office

Sharon Katz
Safehome, Inc.

Jennifer Kennally
United Way of Johnson County

Juliene Maska
Kansas Attorney General
Carla J. Stovall's Office

Michael McLain
Johnson County Courthouse

Nancy Orrick
Defense Bar

Daryl Reece
Johnson County Sheriff's Office

Lois Rice
Johnson County CASA

Brenda Sharpe
Sunflower House

Judge Allen Slater
Johnson County Courthouse

Shari Sova
Community Volunteer

Jacqie Spradling
Johnson County
District Attorney's Office

Judge Steve Tatum
Johnson County Courthouse

Judge James Vano
Johnson County Courthouse

David Wiebe
Johnson County Mental Health Center

Work Group Facilitators*

Amy Boydston
Sunflower House

Teresa Crosthwait
Safehome

Beth Easley
Court Services 10th Judicial District

Stacy Mann
KS Coalition Against
Sexual & Domestic Violence

Lori Peterson
Safehome

Cindy Riddell
KS Social & Rehabilitation Services

Other Work Group Members

Lori Allen, Safehome	Erin Lynch, Safehome
Julie Ball, Safehome	Deborah Medlock, Court Services
Cindy Beals, CASA	Elena Morales, El Centro
Bonnie Brightwell, KS Social & Rehabilitation Services	Timothy Mulcahy, Justice Information Management System
Shirley Collins, Safehome	Jen Orth, Safehome
Sydney Craft, KS Social & Rehabilitation Services	Lawrence Perry, Shawnee Police Department
Julie Diekemper, Safehome	Brian Porch, Johnson County District Attorney's Office
Darcy Dinneen, Johnson County CASA	Ed Salazar, Overland Park Police Department
Allison Domingues, Safehome	Liz Smith, Johnson County Mental Health Center
Dan Field, Johnson County Parks Police	Chaya Sumpter, Safehome
Lisa Gresham, KS Social & Rehabilitation Services	Helen Swan, Sunflower House
Carol Gustafson, KS Social & Rehabilitation Services	Tim Sweeny, Olathe Police Department
P. J. Jaime, TLC for Children & Families	Sherrie Vaughn-Gregg, TLC for Children & Families
Gary Kretchmer, Court Services	Liz Weingart, Johnson County Mental Health Center
Shawna Lindburg, Court Services	Tom Whitworth, Court Services
Johnna McVay, KS Social & Rehabilitation Services	

Project Manager

Carol Smith, Project Manager
United Community Services of Johnson County, Inc.

* Other Facilitators include the following Leadership Team members: Judge Allen Slater, Rise Haneberg, Sharon Katz, Mary Cole, Henry Gueary, Don Hymer, Lois Rice, Sandy Barnett, Shari Sova, and Georgia Grant

Appendix B.

Memorandum of Agreement

As Signed by Leadership Team members and organizations – January 2004

As a community, we can improve how we help Johnson County families who are experiencing violence. On behalf of my organization, I have served on the Leadership Team of *Safe From the Start: A Community Collaboration on the Co-Occurrence of Child Maltreatment and Domestic Violence*. Now that the active work of the Leadership Team has concluded, I pledge my continued support of the Guiding Principles and other intervention strategies as outlined in the *Guidelines on the Co-Occurrence of Domestic Violence and Child Maltreatment* that have been adopted by this team.

As a member of the Leadership Team, I understand that participating organizations will be asked to continue the work of the *Safe From the Start* project by supporting and enforcing the recommended changes set forth by this team within my organization and through community-based efforts, such as by the Community Violence Action Council (COMVAC). Through each individual agency embracing the goals of this project, our community as a whole can now more effectively serve families experiencing the co-occurrence of domestic violence and child maltreatment.

On behalf of my organization, I will make a good faith effort in the continuance of:

1. Working in a collaborative effort with partner agencies to better respond to co-occurring child abuse and domestic violence in Johnson County;
2. Identification of work issues and tasks to provide an integrated service delivery model for co-occurring child abuse and domestic violence;
3. Support the implementation within my organization of the Guiding Principles and other intervention strategies as outlined in the *Guidelines on the Co-Occurrence of Domestic Violence and Child Maltreatment*.
4. Support community efforts to implement *Safe From the Start* strategies.
5. Provide data to monitor the project's impact on Johnson County families.

Signer

Barbara Ballentine
Chief Kevin Cavanaugh
Mary Cole
Bob Drummond
Rise Haneberg
Don Hymer
Sharon Katz
Jennifer Kennally
Paul Morrison
Nancy Orrick
Daryl Reece
Lois Rice
Brenda R. Sharpe
Judge Allen R. Slater
Carol Smith
David Wiebe

Organization

Midwest WholeChild Development Group
Fairway Police Department
KS Social & Rehabilitation Services
TLC for Children & Families
Court Services 10th Judicial District
Johnson County District Attorney's Office
Safehome
United Way of Johnson County
Johnson County District Attorney
Attorney, Defense Bar
Johnson County Sheriff's Office
Johnson County CASA
Sunflower House, Inc.
Johnson County District Court
United Community Services of Johnson County
Johnson County Mental Health Center

Appendix C.

DEFINITIONS

The following definitions are those deemed relevant to the *Safe From the Start* project. The definitions were based on definitions and concepts that are outlined in the following: Kansas State Statute, Kansas Administrative Regulations, *Safe From the Start* “Guiding Principles” and the “Green Book.” These definitions may be broader than those found in statute, as they are for the purpose of using them in a social context, in working in the community for the purpose of providing safety for abused and neglected children and for adult victims of domestic violence.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Domestic violence is unacceptable conduct, regardless of its methods or degrees of severity that is designed and intended to establish or maintain control over another adult family or household member or a former family or household member. Domestic violence victims may be intimate partners, spouses, or former intimate partners or spouses, including persons involved in dating relationships. A domestic abuser may use physical abuse, emotional abuse, verbal abuse, sexual abuse, pain, economic oppression, isolation, threats, stalking, intimidation, abuse or neglect of a child, or any combination of these and more tactics to instill fear in the victim, but the primary goal of all domestic abusers is control.

CHILD IN NEED OF CARE

“Child in need of care” means a person less than 18 years of age who is without adequate parental care, control, or subsistence and the condition is not due solely to the lack of financial means of the child’s parents or custodians; is without the care or control necessary for the child’s physical, mental or emotional health; has been physically, mentally or emotionally abused or neglected or has been sexually abused; has been placed for care or adoption in violation of law; has been abandoned or does not have a known living parent; is not attending school as required; does an act which, when committed by a person under 18 years of age, is prohibited by state law, city ordinance, or county resolution but which is not prohibited if done by an adult; while less than 10 years of age, commits any act which if done by an adult would constitute the commission of a felony or misdemeanor; is willfully and voluntarily absent from the child’s home without the consent of the child’s parent or other custodian; is willfully and voluntarily absent at least a second time from a court ordered or designated placement, or a placement pursuant to court order, if the absence is without the consent of the person with whom the child is placed or, if the child is in a facility, without the consent of the person in charge of such facility or such person’s designee; has been residing in the same residence with a sibling or another person under 18 years of age, who has been physically, mentally or emotionally abused or neglected, or sexually abused

Child abuse means any act, or failure to act that results in death, physical harm, mental or emotional harm, or sexual abuse that presents a likelihood of harm to a child under the age of 18.

CHILD ABUSE

Child abuse is unacceptable conduct, regardless of its methods or degrees of severity. Child abuse means any act, or failure to act that results in death, physical harm, mental or emotional harm, or sexual abuse that presents a likelihood of harm to a child under the age of 18.

CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

Child sexual abuse means any contact or interaction with a child in which the child is being used for the sexual stimulation of the perpetrator, the child or another person. Sexual abuse includes allowing, permitting or encouraging a child to engage in prostitution or to be photographed, filmed or depicted in obscene or pornographic material.

CHILD NEGLECT

Neglect of a child means acts or omissions that result in harm to a child or that present the likelihood of harm. Neglect includes failure to provide the child with food, clothing, or shelter necessary to sustain the life or health of the child; failure to provide adequate supervision of child or to remove a child from a situation that requires judgment or actions beyond the child's level of maturity, physical condition, or mental abilities and that results in bodily injury or the likelihood of harm to the child; or failure to use resources available to treat a diagnosed medical condition if such treatment will make a child substantially more comfortable, reduce pain and suffering, correct or substantially diminish a crippling condition, lengthen the life span, or prevent the condition from worsening.

CHILD MALTREATMENT

Conduct affecting a child that includes neglect or abuse, not due solely to financial means, that may be as simple as degradation, wounding the spirit of the child, the sense of well-being and peace that a child should have in the home, including exploitation for personal gain or advantage or the intentional infliction of abuse.

CHILD ENDANGERMENT

Endangering a child is causing or permitting a child to be placed in a situation in which the child's life, body or health may be injured.

CHILD WITNESSING

Child witnessing encompasses a wide range of experiences for children, including a child who actually observes or overhears acts of domestic violence or child abuse (such as physical harm, threatening or intimidation), or a child who is exposed to the results of domestic violence or child abuse without ever hearing or seeing any aggressive act.

CHILD EMOTIONAL ABUSE

Mental or emotional abuse means acts or omissions that impair a child's social, emotional or intellectual functioning or that present the likelihood of such impairment. Emotional abuse includes terrorizing a child by creating a climate of fear or engaging in violent or threatening behavior toward the child or toward others in the children's presence that demonstrates a flagrant

disregard for the child. It also includes emotionally abandoning a child, or corrupting a child by teaching or rewarding the child for unlawful, antisocial or sexually precocious behaviors.

CO-OCCURRENCE

Co-occurrence is the intersection between adult domestic violence and any form of child maltreatment.

PERPETRATOR

The term “perpetrator” refers to the adult who is responsible for the act(s) of violence against a child or adult victim. The perpetrator may be a natural parent, stepparent, adult sibling, live-in domestic partner, roommate, former spouse or domestic partner.

Appendix D.

Sources

- (1) Schechter, S., & Edleson, J.L. (1999). *Effective Intervention in Domestic Violence & Child Maltreatment Cases: Guidelines for Policy and Practice*. Reno, Nevada: National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges.
- (2) Malik, S. & Velazquez Jr., J. (July/August 2002). “Cultural Competence and the New Americans.” *Children’s Voice Article*. Child Welfare League of America.
- (3) Child Welfare League of America. (2003) Cultural Competence. Retrieved from: <http://www.cwla.org/programs/culturalcompetence>
- (4) Moore, J.I. (Ed.). (1999). Immigrants in Courts. Foreword by Justice James M.. Dolliver. Published by University of Washington Press.
- (5) Bancroft, L. & Silverman, J.G. (2002) The Batterer as Parent: Addressing the Impact of Domestic Violence on Family Dynamics. Thousand Oaks, California: Sage Publications, Inc.