

**CASE PLANS: WHAT CHANGE IN
PARENTAL BEHAVIOR IS “GOOD
ENOUGH?”**

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ROLE OF CHILD PROTECTION

SAFETY:

- Safety of the child is paramount.
- The best predictor of future safety is past action.
- Safety is strengths demonstrated as protection for the child over time.



ROLE OF CHILD PROTECTION

PERMANENCY

- All children deserve to have a permanent place to live.
- Reunification with a parent is the first option.
- Placement with relatives.
- Maintaining relationships and connections.



ROLE OF CHILD PROTECTION

WELL-BEING:

- Basic needs-safety, food, clothing, shelter, connections with caring adults, education.
- Mental health and physical health.
- Addressing child trauma – long term effects.



PHILOSOPHY

- When safety can be assured, the best place for children is with family.
- Safety can be assured through creative options and services based on family strengths and needs.
- Use of a strength-based, family centered approach based on safety planning.
- Need to start where the parent(s) and child(ren) are at.



PURPOSE OF THE CASE PLAN

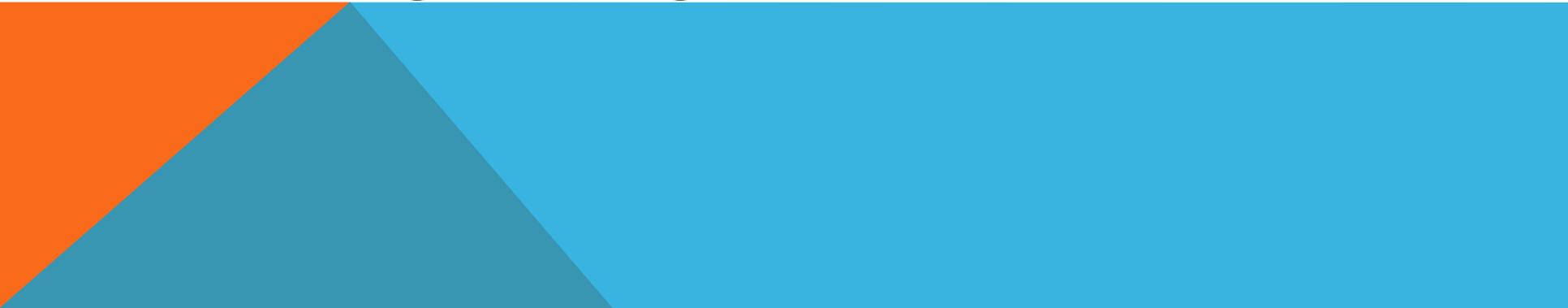
Provide a “road map”.

“It’s a long day on the golf course if you don’t know where the hole is.”

Michael Hoyt

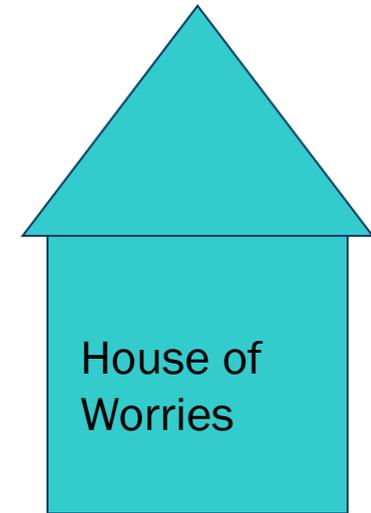
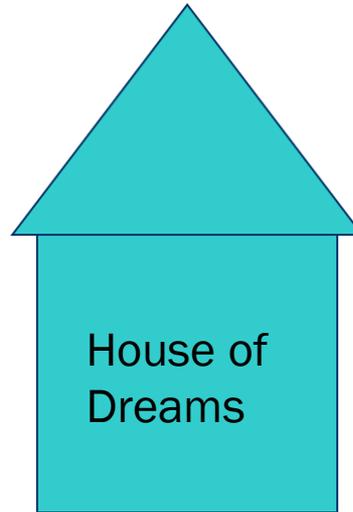
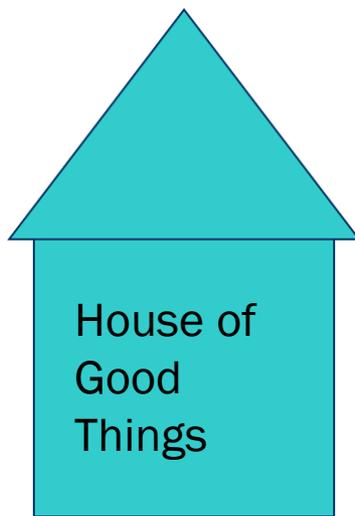


PURPOSE OF THE CASE PLAN:

- Individualized to child(s) and parent(s).
 - To create buy-in and ownership of the plan.
 - To identify the strengths and needs of family members.
 - To set specific, measurable, achievable, relative and time-limited goals (SMART).
 - Clear language
 - Clear expectations
 - To clarify tasks and expectations of all parties.
 - To determine service to address the identified needs and meet the agreed upon goals.
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SAFETY PLANNING:

- Clearly defined bottom-lines.
- Give voice to children as well as parents.
 - Three Houses



SAFETY PLANNING:

- **Development of safety network**
 - May require rebuilding relationships and trust
 - Membership can change over time
 - Long term
- **Honest and accurate information provided to the network**



SAFETY PLANNING:

- Break down of tasks into manageable pieces as needed.
- Fluid: Plan can and should change over time.
- Testing of safety network – plans and back up plans



PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER

- Trust/Honesty
 - With safety network
 - With children
 - With court
- Relationships
- Opportunity for practice
- Fluid process based on the changing strengths and needs



WHEN IS “GOOD” GOOD ENOUGH?

- Perfection is not the goal, but ability to parent safely, identify needs and seek help
- Not a cookie cutter
- Actions speak louder than words
- Tested over time
- Ability and willingness to use their networks
- Exhibit ability to put child’s needs first



WHEN IS “GOOD” GOOD ENOUGH?

It’s all about the children!



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