

BUTLER COUNTY CHILDREN SERVICES

POLICY NO.: 16.2	SUBJECT: Formal Review of Intensive Risk Case Overrides and Specified Re-maltreatment Cases
OAC	EFFECTIVE DATE: 7/17
	REVISION DATE:

PURPOSE: To assess casework practice, service provision, policy application and compliance with Ohio Administrative Code. To identify opportunities to reduce recidivism and for continual improvement of services to families in order to enhance safety, permanency and well-being for children.

POLICY: The following protocol is intended to provide a mechanism for the following:

1. Formal review of team-decision making for case closure decisions pertaining to cases identified as Intensive Risk with a Discretionary Override to close the case.
2. Implement process for Quality Case Reviews pertaining to cases screened in that are identified as Priority I or Priority 2 that have re-opened within ninety (90) days.

Family Assessment Final Risk Level-Intensive Risk

The Family Assessment is designed to assist workers in assessing risk and identifying the strengths and needs present in the family system to inform case opening decisions and what service needs may be present. This is achieved through engaging family members in a process to understand their strengths and needs and via an interview process designed to gather appropriate information from each child in the household, each adult in the household and collateral contacts in relation to assessing the family's functioning.

The case disposition is one component in determining if a family needs continued PCSA services or whether the case will close. Caseworkers may request an override of the Preliminary Matrix-Indicated Case Decision if the risk classification prompts a case transfer that appears inappropriate (e.g., preliminary case decision is to transfer, but the analysis in the final case decision indicates the case may be closed). Any discretionary override requests must be approved by a supervisor. The caseworker must document the specific reason the discretionary override is being requested. (ODJFS Child Protective Services Policy Manual) BCCS does require additional administrative approval for cases identified as Intensive Risk with a discretionary override to close the case.

PROCEDURE:

1. The caseworker must submit all override requests to be approved by a Supervisor.

2. BCCS requires that a discretionary override for Intensive Risk shall be staffed for Administrative approval.
3. The caseworker and supervisor will request a case staffing with their assigned Administrator upon identification of such case.
4. When a caseworker and supervisor are considering a review for Intensive Risk the following elements should be taken into consideration:
 - (a) Multiple referrals on the family
 - (b) Ongoing or persistent social problems or conditions such as substance abuse, domestic violence, mental illness and unemployment that can increase risk of child maltreatment or its severity
 - (c) Single parent of more than one child who seem to normalize household through dysfunction and chaos and cannot prioritize their child(ren) needs
 - (d) Parent(s) poor judgment and are failing to meet the basic needs of children
 - (e) The special and emotional needs of the children
 - (f) Concerns over inability to engage parent(s) in a way that could create a more permanent change in positive parenting
 - (g) Parent(s) do not possess insight that was needed to change overall approach to raising children and to not repeat past mistakes
 - (h) Parent(s) was unable to integrate into parenting practices the information presented in classes or services
 - (i) Parent(s) unable to manage the unique/special needs of multiple children
 - (j) Parent(s) neglecting special medical and educational needs and poor supervision
 - (k) Historical record clearly shows Parent(s) lack of internal motivation with community services and or drug treatment proven unsuccessful
 - (l) Historical concerns about children having obvious developmental delay.
 - (m) Parent(s) unable to budget money for food to last a month and multiple moves with BCCS assisting with providing vouchers, family stability or paying utilities multiple times
 - (n) Parent(s) presented as struggling with depression and overwhelmed feelings of multiple children
 - (o) Parent(s) had family support but never fully assessed the quality of the support
 - (p) Service providers may have normalized what would seem pathological with another family
5. The caseworker and supervisor must be prepared to discuss the following information with the Administrator during the staffing:
 - (a) Summary of the case.
 - (b) What were the main concerns while working with the family?
 - (c) If applicable, were the current concerns the same as the concerns in the past?
 - (d) Is there any re-maltreatment issues or repeated history of referrals? If so, summarize history.
 - (e) What are the protective capacities identified?
 - (f) What is the risk to the children/safety concerns?
 - (g) What interventions or services have been used already or have been arranged?
 - (h) Are there any family or current community supports in place?
 - (i) Worker to provide follow up email to the team regarding any action items.

Criteria for Re-maltreatment Priority I & II--Quality Case Review

The purpose of the Priority I & II Case Reviews is to look at BCCS involvement with the family; both historically and currently and gain a perspective of how best to serve the family. A Priority I & II Case Review also provides an opportunity to evaluate repeat maltreatment cases and identify opportunities to reduce recidivism.

PROCEDURE:

1. Quality Assurance staff will run a report weekly in order to identify Priority I & Priority II cases that meet the criteria of re-opening within the past 90 days.
2. Cases that meet this criteria will require a mandatory case review to be completed by Quality Assurance.
3. Quality Assurance will make diligent efforts to conduct the case review prior to the disposition date in order to provide timely feedback.
4. Upon completion of the review, a debriefing staffing will be scheduled with the Administrator, current and/or previous Supervisor(s) and worker(s). The debriefing will highlight the following:
 - (a) Copy of review tool
 - (b) Summary of findings
 - (c) Strengths identified
 - (d) Issues identified
 - (e) Recommendations
5. Quality Assurance will collect data and review data quarterly to identify any collective trends.

7-25-17
APPROVAL DATE:


William Morrison, Executive Director