

Appendix C

Abbreviations and Definitions

Abbreviations

AOD	Alcohol and other drugs
AP	Alleged perpetrator
AR	Alternative Response
BIP	Batterer intervention program
CAC	Child advocacy center
CA/N	Child abuse/neglect
CASA	Court-appointed special advocate
Collaborative	Ohio Intimate Partner Violence Collaborative
CPO	Civil protection order
CPS	Child Protective Services
DMA	David Mandel & Associates
DR	Differential Response
DR Court	Domestic Relations Court
DV	Domestic violence
DVFRT	Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team
GAL	Guardian ad litem
IPV	Intimate partner violence
NOP	Non-offending parent
OAC	Ohio Administrative Code
ODJFS	Ohio Department of Job & Family Services
ODVN	Ohio Domestic Violence Network
ORC	Ohio Revised Code
PCSA	Public Children Services Agency
SACWIS	Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information System
SCO	Supreme Court of Ohio
TR	Traditional Response

Definitions

Alleged perpetrator: The individual suspected of being responsible for the abuse or neglect of a child. (ORC § 5101:2-1-01)

Alternative response: The PCSA's response to a report of child abuse or neglect that engages the family in a comprehensive evaluation of child safety, risk of subsequent harm, and family strengths and needs and that does not include a determination as to whether child abuse or neglect occurred. (ORC § 5101:9-6-32)

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Assessment: Process to determine if a child’s immediate safety is a concern and, if it is, to identify interventions that will ensure the child’s protection while keeping the child within the family or extended family, if at all possible, (a) if child maltreatment has occurred; (b) if there is a risk of future maltreatment and the level of that risk; and/or (c) if continuing agency services are needed to address any effects of child maltreatment and to reduce the risk of future maltreatment. (Child Welfare Information Gateway)

Batterer: In this case, the partner in an intimate – or formerly intimate – relationship who exhibits a pattern of coercive control over the other partner. Other terms may include alleged perpetrator, perpetrator, and offending parent, depending on the situation.

Batterer intervention program (BIP): A treatment approach that holds batterers accountable, while striving to change their behavior. Visit the ODVN’s website for BIP standards.

Best interests: The deliberation that courts undertake when deciding what type of services, actions, and orders will best serve a child as well as who is best suited to take care of a child. "Best interests" determinations are generally made by considering a number of factors related to the circumstances of the child and the circumstances and capacity of the child's potential caregiver(s), with the child's ultimate safety and wellbeing as the paramount concern. (Child Welfare Information Gateway)

Best practice: A benchmark method or technique that has consistently shown results superior to those achieved with other methods.

Case plan: A set of action steps agreed to by the service provider/agency and family that sets expectations for behavioral changes.

Child abuse/neglect: Defined by the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) as, at a minimum, any recent act or failure to act on the part of a parent or caretaker that results in death, serious physical or emotional harm, sexual abuse, or exploitation, or an act or failure to act that presents an imminent risk of serious harm. The Ohio Revised Code defines an “abused child” and a “neglected child” in ORC § 5101:2-1-01.

Abused child: Any child who meets the criteria below.

- (a) Is the victim of sexual activity as defined under Chapter 2907 of the Revised Code, where such activity would constitute an offense under

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Chapter 2907 of the Revised Code, except that the court need not find that any person has been convicted of the offense in order to find that the child is an abused child.

- (b) Is endangered as defined in section 2919.22 of the Revised Code, except that the court need not find that any person has been convicted under section 2919.22 of the Revised Code in order to find that the child is an abused child.
- (c) Exhibits evidence of any physical or mental injury or death, inflicted other than by accidental means, or an injury or death which is at variance with the history given of it. Except as provided in this definition, a child exhibiting evidence of corporal punishment or other physical disciplinary measure by a parent, guardian, custodian, person having custody or control, or person in loco parentis of a child is not an abused child under this definition if the measure is not prohibited under section 2919.22 of the Revised Code.
- (d) Because of the acts of his parents, guardian, or custodian, suffers physical or mental injury that harms or threatens to harm the child's health or welfare.
- (e) Is subjected to out-of-home care child abuse.

Neglected child: Any child meeting the criteria below.

- (a) Who is abandoned by the child's parents, guardian, or custodian.
- (b) Who lacks adequate parental care because of the faults or habits of the child's parents, guardian, or custodian.
- (c) Whose parents, guardian, or custodian neglects the child or refuses to provide proper or necessary subsistence, education, medical or surgical care or treatment, or other care necessary for the child's health, morals, or wellbeing.
- (d) Whose parents, guardian, or custodian neglects the child or refuses to provide the special care made necessary by the child's mental condition.
- (e) Whose parents, legal guardian, or custodian have placed or attempted to place the child in violation of sections 5103.16 and 5103.17 of the Revised Code.
- (f) Who, because of the omission of the child's parents, guardian, or custodian, suffers physical or mental injury harming or threatening to harm the child's health or welfare.
- (g) Who is subject to out-of-home care child neglect.

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- (h) Nothing in Chapter 2151 of the Revised Code shall be construed as subjecting a parent, guardian, or custodian of a child to criminal liability when solely in the practice of religious beliefs, the parent, guardian, or custodian fails to provide adequate medical or surgical care or treatment for the child.

Child advocacy center: Community-based, child-friendly, multidisciplinary service center for children and families affected by sexual abuse or severe physical abuse. These centers bring together, often in one location, child protective services investigators, law enforcement, prosecutors, and medical and mental health professionals to provide a coordinated, comprehensive response to victims and caregivers. (Child Welfare Information Gateway)

Child maltreatment: Action or inaction that leads to harm of a child. (ORC § 5101:2-1-01.1)

Child protective services: The social services agency designated (in most states) to receive reports, conduct investigations and assessments, and provide intervention and treatment services to children and families in which child maltreatment has occurred. Frequently, this agency is located within larger public social service agencies, such as departments of social services. (Child Welfare Information Gateway)

Civil protection order: An order granted by a judge ordering the batterer to stay away from the non-offending parent. The batterer should not enter the non-offending parent's home or approach the non-offending parent at the non-offending parent's place of work or school. If the batterer violates the protection order, a new charge could be filed and the batterer could be arrested. (Pfeiffer, 2009)

Coercive control: Patterns of behavior by the batterer intended to maintain power over the non-offending parent. Appendix C lists examples of the Duluth Model's Power & Control Wheel.

Court-appointed special advocate (CASA): A person, usually a volunteer appointed by the court, who serves to ensure that the needs and interests of a child in child protection judicial proceedings are fully protected. (Child Welfare Information Gateway)

Differential response: An approach that a public children services agency (PCSA) may use to respond to accepted reports of child abuse or neglect with either an alternative response or a traditional response. (ORC § 5101:9-6-32)

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Domestic Relations Court: The court that hears cases involving family disputes, such as divorce, child custody, and domestic violence cases. (Child Welfare Information Gateway)

Domestic violence: See definition below for intimate partner violence.

Engagement: Good practices with family and any other people involved in a case. Suggested practices include survivor-centric practices and family team meetings.

Evidence-based practice: An approach to prevention or treatment that is validated by some form of documented scientific evidence. This includes findings established through controlled clinical studies, but other methods of establishing evidence are valid as well. (Child Welfare Information Gateway)

Evidence-informed practice: Practice that uses the best available research and practice knowledge to guide program design and implementation. (Child Welfare Information Gateway)

Family: In this protocol, defined as any person or pet called “family” by the client(s) with whom providers work. Family may include biological, foster, adoptive, or other relations.

First disclosures: Initial information shared with a provider (including foster parents or caregivers) indicating potential harm to children as a result of domestic violence.

First responders: Service providers – most often law enforcement – that arrive at the scene of an incident of domestic violence or are the first to take action following a report of domestic violence.

Guardian ad litem (GAL): A lawyer or layperson who represents a child in juvenile or family court. Usually this person considers the best interest of the child and may perform a variety of roles, including those of independent investigator, advocate, advisor, and guardian for the child. (Child Welfare Information Gateway)

Indicated: A report disposition in which there are circumstantial or other isolated indicators of child abuse or neglect lacking confirmation; or a determination by the caseworker that the child may have been abused or neglected based upon completion of an assessment/investigation. (ORC § 5101:2-1-01)

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Intimate partner violence: A pattern of abusive and coercive behaviors, including physical, sexual, and psychological attacks, as well as economic coercion, that adults or adolescents use against their intimate partners. (ODVN; Schechter, 1995)

Kin: Any:

- (a) Individuals related by blood or adoption, including:
 - a. Parents, grandparents, including grandparents with the prefix "great," "great-great," "grand," or "great-grand";
 - b. Siblings;
 - c. Aunts, uncles, nephews, and nieces, including such relative with the prefix "great," "great-great," or "great-grand";
 - d. Cousins and first cousins once removed;
- (b) Stepparents and stepsiblings;
- (c) Spouses and former spouses of individuals named in paragraph (B)(168)(a) of this rule;
- (d) Any non-relative adult the current custodial caretaker or child identifies as having a familiar and long-standing relationship/bond with the child and/or the family which will ensure the child's social ties. (ORC § 5101:2-1-01)

Mandated reporters: Individuals required by state statutes to report suspected child abuse and neglect to the proper authorities (usually CPS or law enforcement agencies). Mandated reporters typically include educators, other school personnel, healthcare and mental health professionals, social workers, child care providers, law enforcement, or others who have frequent contact with children and families. Some states identify all citizens as mandated reporters. (Child Welfare Information Gateway; ORC § 2151.421)

Non-offending parent: The partner in an intimate – or formerly intimate – relationship who is the victim of a batterer’s coercive control. Other terms include battered person, survivor, and victim.

Parenting time: Court-defined time a parent has with his/her child following a divorce, dissolution, legal separation, annulment, or juvenile custody proceeding. Also known as parenting access or custody. (ORC § 3109.051)

Predominant/primary aggressor: The partner in an intimate – or formerly intimate – relationship who has committed an act of domestic violence against a current or former intimate partner, often as part of a larger pattern of coercive and controlling behaviors, *not* in an act of self-defense.

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Protective capacities: Family strengths or resources that reduce, control, or prevent threats of serious harm from arising or having an unsafe impact on a child (ORC § 5101:2-1-01); behavioral, cognitive, and emotional characteristics that can specifically and directly be associated with a person's ability to care for and keep a child safe (Oregon Department of Human Services, 2010).

Reasonable suspicion: When facts or circumstances lead one to believe that, in this case, children have come to harm in some way; this requires less certainly than probable cause. (Terry v. Ohio, 1968)

Referral: An allegation of child abuse, neglect, or dependency, or information regarding a family in need of services made orally or in writing, including, but not limited to, allegations involving individuals, families, and out-of-home care settings.

Removal: The most restrictive safety plan, in which a legally authorized out-of-home placement is arranged for the child(ren) and custody is transferred to the public children services agency or a relative or kinship caregiver. This option is utilized when the caretaker either will not or cannot agree to an in-home or out-of-home safety plan or there is a lack of services to the degree that legal removal from the home is the only safety intervention which will effectively control the identified threats of serious harm to ensure child safety. (Kasich, J. R., Dungey, C. C., 2007)

SACWIS: The Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information System that CPS agencies use to document and track cases.

Safety (as defined by CPS): For all children assessed, there are no active safety threats present, or protective capacities of the family are controlling any identified safety threats.

Screening: The process of receiving and recording information from a referent to determine one or both of the following:

- (a) Whether the information provided should be categorized as a referral of child abuse and/or neglect, dependency, or family in need of services; or as an information and/or referral intake.
- (b) Whether the information categorized as a referral of child abuse and/or neglect, dependency, or family in need of services should be screened in or screened out.

Screening decision: The outcome of the screening process. (ORC § 5101:2-36)

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Screened in: The PCSA has accepted referral information as a report and assignment for assessment and/or investigation. (ORC § 5101:2-36)

Screened out: The PCSA has not accepted the referral for assessment or investigation. (ORC § 5101:2-36)

Substantiated: A report disposition in which there is an admission of child abuse or neglect by the person(s) responsible; an adjudication of child abuse or neglect; or other forms of confirmation deemed valid by the PCSA. (ORC § 5101:2-1-01)

Traditional response: A PCSA's response to a report of child abuse or neglect that encourages engagement of the family in a comprehensive evaluation of the child's current and future safety needs and a fact-finding process to determine whether child abuse or neglect occurred and the circumstances surrounding the alleged harm or risk of harm. (ORC § 5101:9-6-32)

Trauma: Extreme events that are threatening to physical safety or bodily integrity of oneself or loved one. (National Child Traumatic Stress Network)

Trauma-informed: Organizations, programs, and services based on an understanding of the vulnerabilities or triggers of trauma survivors that traditional service delivery approaches may exacerbate, so that these services and programs can be more supportive and avoid re-traumatization. (Casey Family Programs, 2013)

Unsubstantiated: A report disposition in which the assessment/ investigation determined no occurrence of child abuse or neglect. (ORC § 5101:2-1-01)

Warm handoff: An approach in which the [service] provider does a face-to-face introduction of a [client] to the behavioral health specialist to which he or she is being referred. (SAMHSA-HSRA Center for Integrated Health Solutions)