

## Safety Services 120450

**Definition:** A grouping of services for families to assist in assuring safety for children by controlling impending dangers identified during the CPS Family Functioning Assessment. The bundled services must be carefully coordinated with other formal and informal safety services to assure that the impending danger is controlled at the level necessary for the child to remain with their caregivers. The Safety Bundle includes supervision, parenting assistance, family crisis response, social/emotional support and crisis home management services. The mix of these services and other services provided is based upon the in-home safety plan completed by the DHHR. Eighty percent of the services must occur in the family's home or community. The remaining twenty percent of the activities may be administrative functions/activities that directly relate to the control of the impending dangers. These activities correspond to the services identified in the bundle and target controlling the behavior and conditions that immediately threaten the child. This service must commence within 24 hours of referral and must be available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and the provider must be available to respond to crisis within the family during business and non-business hours. Community refers to the places that are natural locations the family would be together, not office settings. Provider must have contact with the DHHR caseworker, (telephone, mail or face-to-face) at least once each week to discuss and determine whether identified impending dangers are being controlled by the safety services.

**Supervision:** "Eyes on" oversight of the child or family which provides an active, ongoing assessment of stressors which affect safety and may result in necessary action. The emphasis here is that the provision of supervision will assist in controlling one or more of the identified impending dangers in the CPS Family Functioning Assessment. The identified child or family requiring supervision must be within the defined boundary in which the provider can intervene immediately if needed to ensure safety, permanency, and wellbeing. The service controls for conditions created by a parent's reaction to stress, parents being inconsistent about caring for children, parents being out of control, parents reacting impulsively and parents having detrimental expectations of children. This service can't be used for spot checks, surprise visits, safety checks or unannounced visits.

**Parenting Assistance:** Direct face-to-face service to assist caregivers in performing basic parental duties or responsibilities which caregiver has been unable or unwilling to perform. Basic parental duties and responsibilities include such activities as feeding, bathing, basic medical care, basic social/emotional attention and supervision. The lack of these basic parenting skills must affect the child's safety. The services must have an immediate effect on controlling the impending dangers identified in the CPS Family Functioning Assessment. The service is different than parenting education in that it is strictly for controlling impending dangers. Only the areas directly relating to safety are to be addressed.

**Family Crisis Response:** Family crisis response is a face-to-face intervention in the consumer's natural environment to assess and de-escalate a family crisis which affects child safety. The service helps control the impending dangers identified in the CPS Family Functioning Assessment. This service differs from traditional individual or family counseling in that the emphasis is to provide immediate relief and support from the crisis being experienced. A crisis is defined as a situation which involves disorganization and emotional upheaval. This service may target dysfunctional family interactions or environmental situations that have escalated to a point that affects the safety of the child or has resulted in the inability to adequately function and problem solve.

**Social/Emotional Support:** Provision of basic social connections and basic emotional support to caregivers. The lack of support must affect the child's safety. The service must have an immediate impact on controlling the impending dangers that affect safety. Once formal linkage to community support systems or access to supportive services, such as therapy or counseling, has been established, this service ends.

**Crisis Home Management:** Service to provide assistance with general housekeeping/homemaking tasks caregivers must do in order to provide a safe environment for their child. Examples include meal preparation, grocery shopping, budgeting or cleaning and maintaining a physically safe residence. The emphasis is on controlling impending dangers identified in the CPS Family Functioning Assessment.

<b>Target Population</b>	Child Protective Services
<b>Program Option</b>	Family Preservation
<b>Initial Authorization</b>	92 Days Unit = One hour 200 hours direct contact
<b>Maximum Total Authorizations Available</b>	2 (additional request will go through the review process)
<b>Admission Criteria</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CPS Family Functioning Assessment (FFA) and Safety Plan have been completed and child has been found to be unsafe and at imminent risk of removal from the home.</li> <li>• Open CPS case.</li> <li>• An in-home safety plan has been developed based on the Impending Dangers identified in the CPS Family Functioning Assessment.</li> <li>• Referral was received directly from DHHR staff.</li> <li>• Service cannot be safely provided through a community resource or the family support system.</li> </ul>
<b>Continuing Stay Criteria</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Impending Dangers identified by the DHHR worker continue to impact the safety of the</li> </ul>

	<p>child and therefore a safety plan is still necessary.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DHHR Worker, family and DHHR Supervisor have reviewed the safety plan and agree that child can remain safely in the home with this level of service.</li> <li>• No less restrictive service/intervention is appropriate and available.</li> <li>• Service cannot be safely provided through a community resource or the family support system.</li> </ul>
<b>Discharge Criteria (Any element may result in discharge or transfer)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DHHR Worker, family and DHHR Supervisor have reviewed safety plan and agree that the child can remain safely in the home without this level of service.</li> <li>• A less restrictive service/intervention is available.</li> <li>• Service can now be safely provided through a community resource or the family support system.</li> <li>• Service is not able to maintain safety in home environment resulting in removal of the child from the home.</li> </ul>
<b>Service Exclusions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The only Socially Necessary codes that may be authorized in conjunction with Safety Services are Emergency Respite, Transportation (public, private, or agency), and Child-Oriented Activity for the first 30 days until DHHR Worker, family and DHHR Supervisor meet to review progress.</li> <li>• Those receiving Waiver or ICF/MR services are not eligible for this service.</li> </ul>
<b>Clinical Exclusions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Severity of child's issue(s) precludes provision of services in this level of care.</li> <li>• Need for the service is not solely to clinically monitor for homicidal and/or suicidal behaviors.</li> </ul>
<b>Documentation</b>	<p>There must always be a permanent case record maintained in a manner consistent with applicable licensing regulations and agency record-keeping policies.</p> <p>A case note must be completed for each service event that includes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Code or service name</li> <li>• Summary of the intervention</li> <li>• Client's response to the intervention</li> <li>• Relation to the service plan</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Location where service occurred</li> <li>• Duration</li> <li>• Start/stop time</li> <li>• Signature of the provider and his/her title or credentials</li> </ul> <p>A copy of the current Safety Plan and the CPS Family Functioning Assessment and/or Protective Capacity Family Assessment must be present in the case record.</p> <p>A monthly progress summary must be completed and received by DHHR worker by the 10<sup>th</sup> day of the following month, a copy kept in the provider chart and one sent to the referring worker. This monthly progress report must contain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A list of dates of service and the specific services rendered and/or attempts</li> <li>• Overall summary of progress for the client/family receiving the service. Please include if family continues to benefit and/or the barriers to intervention</li> <li>• Plan for further interventions</li> <li>• Any identified unmet concrete or service needs</li> <li>• Date and name of DHHR staff to which any new allegations of abuse/neglect were reported within the month</li> </ul>
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**Additional Service Criteria:**

For parenting assistance, social/emotional support, and family crisis response:

- Staff providing this service at a minimum must have a BSW with social work licensure or related four-year degree with social work licensure. Related degrees are:
  - Sociology
  - Psychology
  - Counseling
  - Interpersonal Communication
  - Human Services
  - Primary or Secondary Education
  - Criminal Justice
  - Board of Regents with an emphasis in Human Service
  - Gerontology
  - Family and Consumer Science **or**
- A master's degree in social work, counseling or psychology with licensure **and**
- Experience providing direct service to families.

- All providers must have an acceptable CIB **and** an APS/CPS screen completed with no negative information. See Appendix 1.
- Transportation Providers must have valid Driver's licenses from employee's state of residence and insurance.

If you are an agency with LBHC, child care or child-placing license, you can have 4 year degree and be supervised, but private providers must be licensed.

For supervision, crisis home management and transportation,

- Paraprofessional staff with a High School Diploma/GED Certificate **and**
- Experience providing direct service to families **and**
- Be under supervision of an individual with a BSW or related four-year Bachelor's degree with a social work, psychologist or counseling license who has two years post college experience providing direct service to families **and**
- All providers must have an acceptable CIB and an APS/CPS screen completed with no negative information. See Appendix 1.
- Transportation Providers must have valid Driver's licenses from employee's state of residence and insurance.

The delivery of all ASO Socially Necessary Services must occur within West Virginia borders unless specifically outlined on a currently valid DHHR service plan or written permission has been granted by DHHR.