

CASE PLANNING

Contents of the Child in Placement Case Plan

Policy 36-3

Policy

A child in placement (CIP) case plan shall include (1) an assessment of the child's strengths and needs, (2) a description of service provisions to address the needs, and (3) a discussion of the monitoring of ongoing progress. Case plans shall be written in the primary language of the family (or transcribed into audio) and shall be developed with the child and family.

See also: "[Case Planning Practice Guide](#)."

Primary Considerations

The safety, permanency and well-being of the child shall be the primary considerations in developing the CIP case plan.

Permanency Planning

Within six months of out-of-home placement, DCF shall develop a concurrent permanency plan for each child in placement with a poor prognosis for reunification.

Legal reference: Conn. Gen. Stat. [§17a-110a](#).

Contents

The CIP case plan shall include a comprehensive assessment of the child's strengths and needs for use in developing appropriate goals, plans and interventions. Services that are appropriately matched to the child's strengths and needs (including cultural, racial and other ethnic needs such as hair and skin care) shall be identified. Services shall be individualized, effective and provided in a timely manner.

The CIP case plan shall include:

1. the reasons for placement and continued placement; and
2. a description of the child (including strengths and protective factors).

The CIP case plan shall note the child's current level of functioning across all areas:

3. physical health;
 4. emotional/behavioral (including history of child's exposure to and/or witnessing of any traumatic life events and current reactions and trauma-related assessment/treatment needs related to maltreatment and removal from the home);
 5. educational/development, including suspensions, expulsions, absenteeism, grade level performance and what supports or services are being provided to improve academic performance;
 6. substance abuse or use; and
 7. social supports.
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Other Areas	<p>In addition to the assessment of the child's strengths and needs in the above domains, the CIP case plan shall include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) a description of the current placement (including placement stability);2) the rationale for placement and visitation with siblings, parents and significant others;3) an assessment of relatives, kin and other potential resources;4) the child's perspective;5) additional contents for children in placement age 13 and older;6) additional contents for children with a permanency goal of subsidized guardianship;7) Additional contents for youth transitioning from DCF care due to age.
Case Objectives	<p>The CIP case plan shall list objectives for all priority needs identified in the "Objectives" section of the case plan. The objectives for the child shall support the case planning goal, and shall be clearly stated, prioritized and measurable. The objectives shall be consistent with the assessment and supported by the Structured Decision Making (SDM) Family Strengths and Needs Assessment.</p>
Progress	<p>The progress toward each objective shall be evaluated by the Social Worker, the family, the child and the service providers. Provider feedback shall be incorporated into the plan. The "Progress" section of the case plan shall reflect the status during the six-month review period. Barriers to achieving progress, as well as how the barriers will be addressed, shall be noted.</p>
Action steps	<p>Actions steps are meant to create change in behavior and, therefore, shall be specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and time-limited. For each objective, actions steps shall be included for each parent, the child, service provider(s), and DCF.</p>
