

**OHIO DEPARTMENT OF JOB & FAMILY SERVICES
COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT PLANNING MODEL – I.S.
ALTERNATIVE RESPONSE
FAMILY ASSESSMENT**

FAMILY ASSESSMENT DETAIL

Case Name: Collins(2), Maria **Agency:** IHS Training
Case ID #: 2686016 **Caseworker Name:** Training01, User
Family Assessment ID #: 976060 **Family Assessment Status:** Approved

INTAKE INFORMATION

INTAKE ID #	DECISION DATE/TIME	INTAKE CATEGORY & TYPE(S)	SAFETY ASSESSMENT ID#	SAFETY RESPONSE	AGENCY
5507684	04/16/2015 7:05 PM	CA/N Report Neglect	897309	In Home SP	IHS Training

SECTION 1: IDENTIFYING INFORMATION

List each child in the family from oldest to youngest and his/her date of birth and age. List parent(s) or caretaker(s) and other adult(s) in the family and their relationship to the child(ren). Identify the Primary (P) and Secondary (S) Caregiver.

CHILDREN IN FAMILY

CHILD NAME(S)	ROLE	DOB	AGE	GENDER
Collins, Sara	Child Subject of Report	01/01/1999	17	Female
Collins, Donald	Child Subject of Report	03/16/2010	6	Male

ADULTS IN FAMILY

CAREGIVER STATUS	ADULT NAME(S)	ROLE	DOB/AGE	GENDER	RELATIONSHIP TO CHILD(REN)
Secondary	Collins(2), Maria	Adult Subject of Report	36 04/01/1980	Female	Biological Mother(Collins, Donald)
					Biological Mother(Collins, Sara)
Primary	Collins, Louis	Adult Subject of Report	27 02/01/1989	Male	Biological Father(Collins, Donald)
					Biological Father(Collins, Sara)

SECTION 2: SAFETY RE-ASSESSMENT

A. SAFETY REVIEW

Check and complete whichever case circumstance applies.

3. If a safety threat is active now:

- a. Describe the active safety threat(s), identify which children are affected, and which caregivers or other adults are involved. Describe the progress toward alleviating the safety threat(s).

Donald and Sara are in in immediate danger of serious harm. Louis cannot control his alcohol use and becomes intoxicated while supervising the children. This has placed Donald and Sara in imminent danger. Maria was aware of Louis' substance use and did not make other arrangements for Donald and Sara's care. The active safety threat is currently being controlled with an in home safety plan.

There is currently an In Home Safety plan controlling the active safety threat. Donald and Sara are supervised by their neighbor until Maria arrives home on the evenings that Maria works.

- b. Describe the protective capacities of each caregiver and highlight significant changes that may have occurred since the last assessment of safety was completed.

Maria continues to work late hours, which requires Louis be the primary caregiver four days a week. Maria is able to supervise and care for the children when she is present. Maria's employment remains her main priority. She recognizes how the children are impacted by Louis' substance abuse; however, she ignores this information and continues to leave the children in his care. Although she says that she understands that Louis should not become drunk when acting as the primary caretaker, she continues to minimize the impact to the children. Also, she did not find an alternative caregiver for Sara and Donald when she was aware Louis was drinking.

Louis recognizes that he should be providing supervision for Donald and Sara, and that his alcohol use interferes with his ability to provide for his supervision, however he has not decreased his alcohol use as of yet. Louis continues to be intoxicated several days a week.

- c. Describe the present vulnerability of each child and highlight significant changes that may have occurred since the last assessment of safety was completed.

Donald is still unable to provide for his own needs and care. Due to his young age, he is unable to make decisions that keep him safe and is often seeking to explore and try new things.

Sara also requires adults to provide for her safety and basic needs. Sara appears to be responsible and recognizes actions that may constitute abuse or neglect. Sara has been held responsible for supervising Donald.

B. SAFETY RESPONSE REVIEW

Maintain

'Maintain' if the safety response has not changed since the last assessment of safety.

Create

'Create' if a safety response is needed.

Modify

'Modify' if a revised safety response is needed.

Discontinue

'Discontinue' if a safety response is no longer needed.

Date:

Previously Discontinued

"Previously discontinued" if a safety threat is not currently active but had been active since the last assessment of safety and the safety response was discontinued.

SECTION 3: CHILD HARM DESCRIPTION

A. CURRENT HARM

For each child, identify and describe the type, degree and frequency of actual harm or threatened harm that does not reach the threshold of serious harm OR does reach the threshold of serious harm and was not identified in the safety assessment. Include the information obtained regarding the allegations of child abuse, neglect and/or dependency.

Donald and Sara do not routinely have an adult available to provide for their basic needs. Donald and Sara have been left unsupervised.

B. HISTORICAL HARM

For each child, identify and describe all historical reports of abuse and/or neglect. Include the date(s) of report, type(s) of maltreatment, identification of the ACV/CSR(s) and AP/ASR(s), case disposition(s) and case outcome(s) (e.g., closed, transferred to ongoing services, child placed in out-of-home care, etc.).

There have been no historical reports of abuse and/or neglect.

SECTION 4: STRENGTHS AND NEEDS

CATEGORY 1: CHILD FUNCTIONING

Rate each element:

RC = Risk Contributor

NRC = No Risk Contributor

NAME(S) OF CHILD(REN) IN FAMILY	ASSESSMENT ELEMENTS		
	Self Protection	Physical/Cognitive/Social Development	Emotional/Behavioral Functioning
Donald Collins	RC	RC	NRC
Sara Collins	RC	NRC	NRC

Write a rationale for each child that supports the ratings above. Describe the impact other household members not included in this assessment have on each child. Discuss how the individual elements impact one another. Describe any strengths each child may have in relation to the assessment elements

Sara

Self-Protection:

Sara is 9 years old and depends on adults to provide for her basic needs. She is able to verbalize if abuse or neglect is occurring and is highly visible to friends, teachers and other peers and adults outside of the home but chooses not to report unsafe situations to those she trusts. Sara depends on adults to provide her with food and supervision. In an emergency, Sara would need the assistance of an adult.

Physical/Cognitive/Social Development:

Sara appears to be physically healthy with no limitations to her mobility or ability to provide for her own basic hygiene. She gets good grades in school and has many friends.

Emotional/Behavioral Functioning:

Sara reports that she does not get in trouble at school. She recalls having only one time when she was in trouble for talking and had to miss recess. Maria reports that Sara is a good kid and usually does her household chores without issue. Sara is angry at times because she must take care of Donald after school instead of play with her own friends in the neighborhood. In light of her anger and frustration, Sara does not act out negatively and seems to manage her anger and frustration appropriately by going into her room and "listening to music". However, Sara has grown accustomed to not listening to her mother since Maria has been working late hours.

Donald

Self-Protection

Donald is only 5 years old and is not able to protect himself from threats to his safety. While he is in public school and has access to friends and teachers there and neighbors in the apartment complex, Donald does not recognize actions that may be harmful to him and he often engages in exploratory behaviors that place him in harms way. For example, Donald left his home

without supervision to "find his friends" in the neighborhood. He did not have any recognition that he did not know here he was going or that this activity would be unsafe. He is dependent upon adults to provide for his safety.

Physical/Cognitive/Social Development

Donald is too small to avoid abuse and neglect, and he does not recognize his need for adult supervision. He does not appear to have any physical, cognitive or social delays. He talks about having good friends at school and in the neighborhood. Although he is small in stature, his physical size appears to be of average size for a five year old boy. Donald has done well in kindergarten this year and has received all "s" grades. Donald also has several friends at school, but he often prefers to play by himself.

Emotional/Behavioral Functioning

Donald seems to have positive relationships with peers and his sister Sara. Maria does not indicate that Donald has any behavior issues, she says he does what you "would expect a five year old boy to do". Louis indicates that he is concerned that Donald does not follow his directives of staying in the house after school. While this could be an indicator of a behavioral issue, it seems more likely that it is an indicator that Donald is not receiving the supervision necessary for a five year old boy.

CATEGORY 2: ADULT FUNCTIONING

Rate each element:

RC = Risk Contributor

NRC = No Risk Contributor

NAME(S) OF ADULT(S) IN FAMILY	ASSESSMENT ELEMENTS						
	Cognitive Abilities	Physical Health	Emotional/ Mental Health Functioning	Domestic Relations/ Violence	Substance Abuse	Response to Stressors	Parenting Practices
Louis Collins	NRC	RC	RC	NRC	RC	RC	RC
Maria Collins(2)	NRC	NRC	RC	NRC	NRC	RC	RC

Write a rationale for each adult that supports the ratings above. Describe the impact other household members not included in this assessment have on each adult. Discuss how the individual elements impact one another. Describe any strengths each adult may have in relation to the assessment elements.

Cognitive Abilities:

Both Maria and Louis understand what is reasonable to expect from Donald and Sarah at this stage of their development. Louis is able to articulate the concerns about leaving Donald and Sara unsupervised, as is Maria. Maria and Louis are able to problem solve with the caseworker and in their daily lives. Unfortunately, Louis does struggle with recognizing that Donald is too young to be expected to follow Louis' directive without support. Maria and Louis' ability to recognize the concerns is a strength for the family. They are willing to work with the agency to keep their children safe and to changing behaviors. They understand that Sara is unable to provide supervision of Donald and recognize the mistake in expecting her to care for him in the past.

Physical Health:

Louis suffered a debilitating leg and back injury which causes him routine pain and prevents him from working consistently. Louis' physical health situation is interrelated with his emotional/mental health functioning, parenting practices, and substance abuse. Louis can have a hard time keeping up with Donald when he wants to run away outside, and for this reason, he typically tries to keep Donald and Sara inside when supervising them alone. Maria is in good physical health and works 10 hour days in a local factory.

Emotional/Mental Health Functioning:

Louis explained to his caseworker that he often feels "defeated" and "beat up" , and several times he explained his feelings as "I hold my family back". Louis' leg and back injury have been a source of constant sadness for him as he sees his role as the primary provider for the family. Since he cannot provide for the family as he would like to, Louis reports feeling helpless and hopeless. Louis is frustrated that he cannot contribute more financially by working, but he is also afraid to lose his disability payments. He feels frustrated by not being able to take Donald and Sara outside to play, where he often wants to be. Donald can be very whiny and active when he is inside for long periods of time in the family's small home, and Louis gets exhausted by his behaviors. Louis tries to get Sara help with Donald which lately has created a lot of fighting and power struggles between Louis and Sara. Sara often will go play with friends after school before returning home so that she does not have to stay at home. Louis in turn feels overwhelmed with managing Donald and concerned for Sara's well being when he does not know where she is.

Maria feels positive about her employment and her relationship with her children. She is able to use humor when things do not go well for her, and she has an optimistic view in life. Maria recognizes that it is Louis' responsibility as the adult to care for Donald and Sara; however, she also feels like it is not unreasonable that Sara "take care of " Donald if Louis is not available. Maria has stated several times that she used to care for her brothers at a young age. Maria continues to minimize leaving Sara and Donald in Louis' care when knowing he would be intoxicated.

Domestic Relations

Louis and Maria have been together since meeting in high school. They both report never having fought physically at any time in their relationship. There are no indications of any controlling behaviors or use of derogatory language in regard to each other. While Maria was very angry about the incident leading to the agency's involvement, Maria's overall response was concern for Louis and her children's well being.

Substance Use

Louis appears to drink as a way to cope with his stress and his negative feelings about himself, and he has started drinking excessively over the past year. He talks openly about this. He says that he has always drank to "mellow out", but he has started to pass out frequently, which has not happened in the past. Louis now drinks to intoxication almost every day and passes out

most times that he drinks. Louis is frequently the sole caregiver available to care for the children when he passes out. Louis denies any other drug use, and his statement is supported with two clean drug screens. Maria denies drinking or using drugs. Louis had two screens positive for alcohol but negative for other drugs. Furthermore, Maria continues to buy beer for Louis when she is grocery shopping, and Louis buys additional alcohol with the families limited budget. The family is behind on their rent and several bills because of Louis expenditure of limited funds on alcohol.

Response to Stressors:

Louis uses alcohol to cope with stress in life. His normal daily stress is compounded to by not being able to work, feeling like his medical conditions limit what he can do with Donald. Louis can recognize that his drinking does not help any of these stressors. However, he says he gets overwhelmed and feels like he can't win, which usually leads to alcohol use. Maria is able to use humor to cope with stress. Maria explains that she also focuses on the good things in her life when thing are difficult. On her days off, Maria tries to take Donald to the park or cook a family meal and help keep everyone involved in activities. She finds that cooking for her family allows her to release some stress and show love for them at the same time. Maria believes that since she is working that it is Louis' responsibility to care for Donald and Sara while she is at work. Maria explains that is what she did when Louis worked, and he should do the same for the family. Maria has been in denial and basically ignored that Louis has been intoxicated to the point that he cannot supervise his children on a routine basis. Maria has also not taken action to find an alternative caregiver because "Sara is around to watch out for Donald".

Parenting Practices

Maria and Louis both minimize the risk created by Louis' alcohol consumption. They believe it that Sara should be able to "watch out for Donald", and when confronted with this being unrealistic; they excuse the behavior with a comment about nothing having happened to the children up to this point. Maria states that she loves her children, but she does not get to spend very much time with them because of her work schedule. Maria states that Sara thinks she runs the house when she is not home. While Maria admits to expecting Sara to care for Donald, she seemed to lack insight into the fact that she does expect Sara to be responsible for most things when Maria is not home. Maria discussed frustration that Sara and Donald do not listen to her when she is at home because they have become used to not having rules and structure. Maria says that she gets them to start listening and respect her just in time to go back to work again. Maria recognizes that Sara is very angry at times, but she just tries to get Sara to do something active. The family does enjoy going to the park, movies, and relatives houses on the weekend. On two occasions Maria has kept the children out of school when she has her day off to take the kids and Louis to visit their family for a long weekend. Maria likes to cook meals for her children and tries to help Louis with meal preparation prior to leaving for work. When Louis is not using alcohol he is able to parent effectively. He prepares the children's meals, helps them with their homework, and is able to talk to them about what is going on in their lives. Sara specifically identified how easy it is to talk to her dad when he is not drinking, which is what she has been missing most recently. Louis also volunteered to read to Donald's class and be involved in other school functions. However, Louis' drinking has prevented him from doing any of the positive parenting practices he is capable of. While drinking, Louis has left Donald and Sara to supervise themselves, required Sara to prepare dinner, and he has not been available to either of his children. Maria's current parenting and the parenting skills Louis has used in the past are also a strength for the family. Louis is able to draw upon how he has parented in the past, and he may derive confidence from knowing he has parenting abilities.

CATEGORY 3: FAMILY FUNCTIONING

Rate each element:

RC = Risk Contributor

NRC = No Risk Contributor

ASSESSMENT ELEMENTS	FAMILY
11. Family Roles, Interactions, and Relationships	RC
12. Resource Management and Household Maintenance	RC
13. Extended Family, Social and Community Supports	RC

Write a rationale that supports the family ratings above. Describe the impact other household members not included in this assessment have on the family. In that rationale, discuss how the individual elements impact one another. Describe any strengths the family may have in relation to the assessment elements.

Family Roles, Interactions, and Relationships: Rated an RC primarily due to the impact of Louis' alcohol use. Maria's work schedule requires Louis to be the primary caretaker. When he is unavailable due to his alcohol use, the family's roles and interactions are unhealthy. Sara is often expected to provide the role of caretaker and is not free to participate in social activities important to her development. Louis is not available emotionally or physically to his children, which has damaged their relationships. Maria's work schedule means that she does not see or interact with her children four days out of the week, which has strained their relationship. Sara no longer feels like she needs to listen to her mother at home despite being a very well

behaved child at school. While Maria's income certainly helps the family pay bills and meet the children's needs, the role of Maria as financial provider places stress on Louis. Louis does not have the ability to cope with the role he has in the family, which impacts his emotional health and causes him to consume more alcohol.

Resource Management and Household Maintenance: Louis and Maria survive on Maria's income from working at a local factory and Louis' disability income. The wage she receives is lower than other employees due to her placement through a temporary agency. Louis has recently been spending an excessive amount of the family's income on alcohol, which has made finances very tight. The family has not been able to do positive things like they typically would. For example, they were not able to afford their customary visit to the zoo over Easter weekend, which has become a family tradition.

Extended Family, Social, and Community Supports:

The family members all have several connections they could rely on for support. Louis' family is several hours away, but he would be able to call them for support and the family goes to visit them frequently. Maria's family is local and she has asked her sister for financial assistance several times. Sara has grown up in her school district and has many friends in the community. The family's neighbor, Ms. Jones, is supportive and open to helping in any way possible. The family's social and family supports could be utilized as a strength. Up until the point the agency was involved the family did not use any of their supports to help ensure the children were supervised and cared for on a daily basis. Maria explains she has a lot of pride in being a "good family" and is did not want their friends or her family to judge them because of Louis' drinking or being unable to pay their bills. They have been able to use the neighbor as a responsible party on their safety plan, and they have support from many different individuals. They are supported financially and emotionally during this difficult time.

CATEGORY 4: HISTORICAL

Rate each element:

*RC = Risk Contributor**NRC = No Risk Contributor*

NAME(S) OF ADULT(S) IN FAMILY	ASSESSMENT ELEMENTS		
	Caretaker's Victimization of Other Children	Caretakers Abuse/Neglect as a Child	Impact of Past Services
Louis Collins	NRC	NRC	NRC
Maria Collins(2)	NRC	NRC	NRC

Write a rationale for each adult that supports the ratings above. Describe the impact other household members not included in this assessment have on each adult. Discuss how the individual elements impact one another. Describe any strengths each adult may have in relation to the assessment elements.

Caretaker's Victimization of Other Children: There is no record of Louis or Maria abusing or neglecting any other child.
 Caretaker's Abuse/Neglect as a Child: Louis and Maria both state that they were not abused or neglected as children.
 Impact of Past Services: Louis and Maria have never received child protective services in the past. Likewise, Louis has never received substance abuse treatment before.

SECTION 5: FAMILY'S PERCEPTION

Describe how the family views their own strengths and problems

Donald and Sara both say they have a close family. Sara is aware that her father's alcohol use is creating problems, and she is both angry at her father and worried about him. Donald is aware that his father drinks beer but has not made the connection that it causes problems. Donald talks mostly of playing with his friends at school and looking forward to seeing his mother on the weekend. Maria and Louis believe their relationship is a great strength and the way they are able to get through challenges facing the family. Maria and Louis both recognize alcohol use as a problem. Maria is worried about Louis but also angry at him. Louis states that he wants to stop drinking but does not understand why he does it or how he will stop.

SECTION 6: FAMILY RISK ASSESSMENT OF ABUSE/NEGLECT

N/A:Non-Abuse/Neglect Case

NEGLECT	RESPONSE
N1. Current Report is for Neglect	Yes
N2. Number of Prior Reports	None
N3. Number of Children in the Home	Two or fewer
N4. Number of Adults in Home at Time of Report	Two or more
N5. Age of Primary Caregiver	27 or younger
N6. Characteristics of Either Caregiver (check & add for score) Parenting	Both b and c
N7. Either Caregiver Involved in Harmful Relationships	No
N8. Either Caregiver Has a Current Substance Abuse Problem	Yes, alcohol or drug, either caregiver
N9. Household is Experiencing Severe Financial Difficulty	Yes
N10. Primary Caregiver's Motivation to Improve Parenting Skills	Motivated but unrealistic
N11. Caregiver(s) Response to Investigation/Seriousness of Complaint	Both b and c

TOTAL NEGLECT RISK SCORE =

INTENSE

ABUSE	RESPONSE
A1. Current Report is for Physical or Emotional Abuse	No
A2. Prior Abuse Reports Physical or Sexual Emotional Abuse	None
A3. Prior CPS Service History	No
A4. Number of Children in the Home	Two or more
A5. Either Caregiver Abused as Child	No
A6. Secondary Caregiver Has a Current Substance Abuse Problem	No, or no secondary caregiver
A7. Either Caregiver Has History of Domestic Violence	No
A8. Either Caregiver Has Major Parenting Skills Problem	Yes
A9. Child in the Home Has Special Needs or History of Delinquency	No

TOTAL ABUSE RISK SCORE =

LOW

ACTUAL RISK LEVEL

Assign the family's risk level based on the highest score of either scale, using the following chart:

ACTUAL RISK LEVEL = Intensive

RISK LEVEL OVERRIDES

Policy Override Applied:

 YES NO*Override to intensive. Check appropriate reason:*

1. An in-home or out-of-home safety plan is still active.
 2. Non-accidental physical injury to any age child requiring medical treatment.
 3. Death (previous or current) of a caregiver's child or any other child in their care as a result of abuse or neglect.
 4. Sexual abuse cases where the alleged perpetrator is likely to have immediate access to the child victim.
 5. Cases with non-accidental physical injury to an infant.
 6. Positive toxicology screen of child at birth.

Describe reasons for any mandatory policy override:

The In Home Safety Plan remains active.

OVERRIDE/FINAL RISK LEVEL**FINAL RISK LEVEL = Intensive****SECTION 7: CASE ANALYSIS****A. CASE DECISION** *(For non-abuse/neglect cases, complete Part 3 (a) and (c) only):***1) Preliminary Matrix-Indicated Case Decision: Transfer to Ongoing Services****2) Final Case Decision:**

- a) *To support the basis for the case decision, evaluate the following assessment variables and their relevance and importance to the case decision: active safety threats; protective capacities; child vulnerability; child harm; risk contributors and the final level of risk; child and family strengths and needs; family history; and family perceptions.*

A safety threat is currently active, and the risk level is intensive. Louis cannot control his alcohol use and both parents have minimized the risk of future harm created by Louis' alcohol use. Maria has allowed Louis to serve as the primary caregiver while she works four nights a week while knowing that Louis becomes intoxicated and passes out while parenting. The relationships of most family members are strained at this point, as the children are left to care for themselves. Maria and Louis' emotional health contributes to risk as does their response to stressors. Louis chooses to drink alcohol excessively, while Maria chooses to be in denial or ignore what is happening. Sara, age 9, and Donald, age 5, are vulnerable and depend upon their parents to provide for their safety and to meet their basic needs on a daily basis. Up to this point Sara has been expected to care for Donald most days as Louis becomes intoxicated. By leveraging the family's strengths of potential community/family resources, historical use of good parenting practices, and past strong relationships, it seems likely that the family will be able to overcome these challenges with some agency support. Specifically, it is recommended that the agency have continued involvement with this family to help Louis address the substance abuse issues, Maria and Louis' emotional health, Maria and Louis' negative response to stressors, as well as the problems created by Maria and Louis' parenting practices that are preventing Louis and Maria from assuring Sara and Donald are supervised and have their basic needs met.

- b) *Based upon the evaluation above, should the Preliminary Matrix-Indicated Case Decision be overridden? (Skip if Non-Abuse/Neglect Case)*

 NO*If yes, reason:* YES

- c) *The final case decision is:*

- Transfer For Ongoing PCSA Services
 Close, Refer Community Services
 Close

B. SERVICE PLANNING

Services Related to Ongoing Assessment/Investigation:

Name(s)	Service Effective Date	Service End Date	Service Category/Type	Service Status	Service Provider
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[X] Family in Need of PCSA Services

Likelihood of future maltreatment warrants continued agency involvement.

- Voluntary In-Home Supportive Services
- Protective Supervision
- Out-of-Home Placement

Describe any underlying conditions (i.e., needs of family members, perceptions, beliefs, values, feelings, cultural practices, and/or previous life experiences) that influence the maltreatment dynamic within the family system and/or may cause or contribute to safety threats or risk contributors.

Describe the services and/or interventions suggested to resolve immediate safety threats, strengthen protective capacities, and/or reduce risk as identified in this assessment.

SECTION 8: SIGNATURES

Caseworker Name: Training01, User
Date: 12/04/2016

Supervisor Name: Training01, User
Date: 12/04/2016

Supervisor comments: