

# SIGNS OF SAFETY® SAFETY PLANNING ROADMAP

## WHAT

### DANGER STATEMENTS

What Children's Services is worried will happen to the child if nothing changes (the problem that has to be solved)

Safety planning always involves engaging the family and their support network in a focused action learning process enabling them to decide on, practice and refine the actions that will create lasting safety.

This is the how of safety planning; the trajectory that creates the final safety plan.

### SAFETY GOALS

What Children's Services needs to see to know the child is safe and they can close the case (not services)

## HOW (STEPS)

- 1. Preparations with professionals**
- 2. Develop paired Danger Statements & Safety Goals with matched Safety Scale**
- 3. Identify everything that's working well**  
Continually identify everything that's going well in and around the family that contributes to the wellbeing and safety of the child.
- 4. Develop professional bottom-line requirements**
- 5. Develop professional trajectory including timeline**
- 6. Build vision of process for family**
- 7. Build informed network with family**
- 8. Create explanation for children (and everyone else)**
- 9. Build Safety Plan with parents and network**  
Step-by-step process where the professionals lead the family and network in developing and then demonstrating the plans they will use to ensure the children are safe. Safety planning always involves regular meetings, honouring success, utilising struggles and successively building the plan.  
  
Need to dig into critical issues — dynamics, triggers and stressful times that make abuse/neglect more likely. The family must either come up with or fully own all rules. 'Denial' issues must be dealt with throughout.
- 10. Involve child throughout**
- 11. Monitoring that builds success and responsibility**
- 12. Create final child-centred Safety Plan**

## Ongoing Processes



## TOOLS (METHODS)

Harm Matrix  
Signs of Safety Mapping  
My Three Houses® or equivalent

Signs of Safety Trajectory & Timeline

Family Safety Circles, Network-finding Matrix

Words and Pictures explanation

Regular Review Meetings

Family and network are given the opportunity to fail so they can demonstrate success. Professionals talk openly about the risks they see and manage this together with the family.

Safety Journal, Safety Object

Practice Rehearsals of Rules

Child-focused Safety Plan